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EAT AS ITALIANS DO, AT HOME {page 30}

'HALF-BAKED' PALIN SLAMS STATE OF UNION SPEECH {page 15}

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Weekend, January 28-30, 2011
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News worth sharing.

Sunshine sued by ex-workers

- Ski hill owner's son also named in $435K lawsuit
- Jan. 19 sick-out by patrollers related to dismissals

Four former Sunshine Village employees are suing the Banff-area ski hill for damages, alleging wrongful termination following an incident with the owner's son.

The lawsuit follows a staged "sick day" at the hill Jan. 19, when all but six patrollers didn't report for work, as a show of support for the dismissed workers.

According to court documents filed Wednesday and obtained by Metro, Taylor Scurfield, son of owner Ralph Scurfield, was discovered with four friends skiing in a closed area Dec. 17. When escorted out of the area by a patrolman, the suit alleges Scurfield threatened to "make the ski patrolmen 'pay' for causing him and his friends problems."

Twelve days later, four employees: Chris Chevalier, Rowan Harper, Chris Conway and Ben Chevalier — all in senior safety and supervisory positions with Sunshine — were fired following questioning over the incident involving Scurfield, the suit alleges. Reasons for dismissal varied from loss of trust to clerical errors made on waivers, said the documents.

The lawsuit is asking for more than $435,000 in general damages related to lost wages and benefits, but doesn't account for any additional award.

From the claim:

- The suit alleges that upon being escorted out of the closed area, owner Ralph Scurfield's son said "he was Taylor Scurfield and the ski patrolmen should know who he was."
- In May 2010, Chris Chevalier was presented with an award for 29 years of service.
- Chris Chevalier and Rowan Harper had both worked more than 25 years at Sunshine.
- A safety inspection was conducted at the ski hill on Jan. 20, following the shortage of patrollers caused by the organized sick day.
- Two other employees were relieved of duty upon their return from the sick day.

"It is our position that they were doing their job to protect the hill," said lawyer Andrew Robertson who represents the four employees.

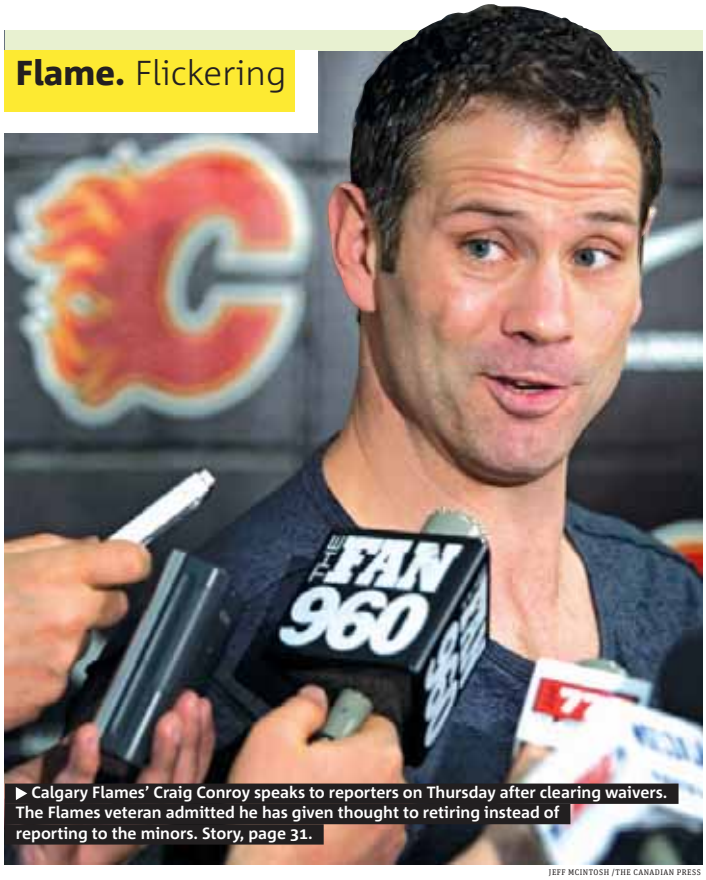
"They were doing what they were trained to do."

Sunshine spokesman Doug Firby could not comment on the lawsuit but said, "We are not sure that procedure was followed in that incident."

Firby also said he does not expect the legal action to affect morale at the hill.

CAROLINA NOVOTNY

Flame. Flickering



▶ Calgary Flames' Craig Conroy speaks to reporters on Thursday after clearing waivers. The Flames veteran admitted he has given thought to retiring instead of reporting to the minors. Story, page 31.

JEFF MCINTOSH /THE CANADIAN PRESS

Conroy contemplates retirement

Morton sets sights on top job

Finance minister resigns from cabinet to run for leader {page 3}

Chris Brown's career rebound

Focus back on music after long ordeal {page 27}

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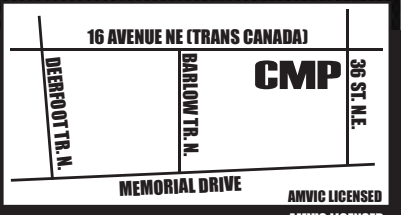

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AMVIC LICENSED

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Stores targeted in synthetic pot bust

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

▶ Det. Collin Harris holds synthetic marijuana products seized by police.

Raids against seven stores have led Calgary police to make what they consider their first bust of synthetic marijuana in the city.

In all, 770 packets of the drug worth an estimated $30,000 were seized from Bongs & Such, Smoker's Corner and Grass Roots stores Tuesday, said Det. Collin Harris.

He said the drug — often branded as Spice, K2, Yucatan Fire, Tribe or Skunk — contains an illegal organic compound and is said to mimic the effects of marijuana.

"The people that were selling the product knew the effects of the product and were telling our (undercover) individuals purchasing the product how to best consume it," Harris said.

Harris said medical reports from the U.S. indicate users of the drug have experienced side-effects, including panic attacks, heart palpitations, hallucinations, delusions and vomiting.

Police were made aware of the drug following a large seizure of it by Canada Border Services Agency in October, Harris said.

An owner at one of the raided stores said they had never been informed that the product was illegal and estimated 50 to 100 stores in Calgary were selling the product.

JEREMY NOLAIS

KATIE TURNER/FOR METRO

▶ Ted Morton and Ed Stelmach shake hands during a press conference Thursday where Morton announced he was stepping down from his cabinet post to pursue the PC party's leadership.

Morton quits to campaign

◐ Finance Minister Ted Morton resigned from cabinet to run for premier's job ◐ Stelmach names Treasury Board's Lloyd Snelgrove to head finance

Ted Morton wasted no time as he stepped down as Alberta's finance minister and launched his campaign to succeed Ed Stelmach as Progressive Conservative leader and premier.

At a news conference in Calgary on Thursday, Stelmach said he has accepted Morton's resignation because it is appropriate that any cabinet minister seeking his job should leave cabinet.

"I have indicated publicly that it is appropriate for those who declare they are seeking the leadership have a responsibility to resign their cabinet posts," Stelmach said.

"I respect the decision Ted has made and the principle it represents. Many of you recall that I resigned my cabinet post when I declared my intent for the leadership in 2006."

Morton's resignation follows growing tension between the two former leadership rivals over the government's upcoming budget. Stelmach has said the budget does not contain deep spending cuts to municipalities, health projects, schools or road construction. Morton favoured reining in spending.

Morton said it would have been difficult to remain finance minister and appear neutral while running for party leader.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quitting time

- The premier announced earlier this week that he won't seek re-election.
- Reports suggest his decision was partly fuelled by a fiscal fight with Morton.
- Stelmach has not said when he will submit his official resignation.
- He has suggested it won't happen until after the legislative sitting concludes, probably in early June.

1 news

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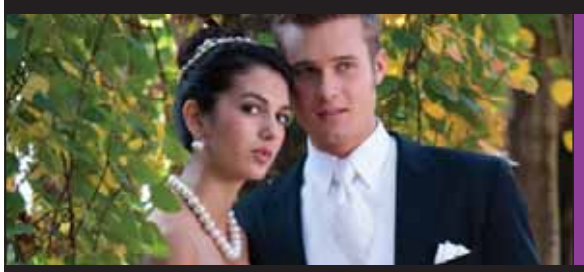

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CRIME

Thai cop accused of killing Calgarian jailed

The family of a Calgarian killed in Thailand three years ago has learned the police officer charged in his shooting has been jailed for a separate killing.

Leo Del Pinto was gunned down Jan. 6, 2008, outside a restaurant in the northern Thai village of Pai.

The officer charged in his death, Sgt. Uthai Dechachiwat, was sentenced to 25 years in prison earlier this week for the clubbing death of his 18-year-old pregnant wife.

As preparations were made for legal proceedings in the Del Pinto slaying, Dechachiwat pleaded guilty to killing his wife last fall.

METRO

Hearing set in war crimes case

A bail hearing is set for Feb. 23 in the case of a Canadian accused of committing war crimes in Guatemala.

Jorge Vinicio Orantes Sosa made a brief court appearance Thursday. He is one of 17 men wanted in the killing of 251 people in 1982.

METRO

Have a say in our food future

Discussions on Calgary's food issues, challenges and solutions are on tap at the Kingsland Farmers' Market Saturday.

FoodStock is an awareness event that raises funds for the Canadian Right to Food Trial Legal Defense Fund. The event runs from 2-4 p.m. and admission is $5. METRO

No ifs, ands or butts, motorists warned

- Complaints pour in about cigarette waste being discarded from vehicles
- Licensed owners issued warning for their first offence under bylaw

Calgary's bylaw boss says a clear message has been sent to smokers behind the wheel: Keep your butts in the vehicle.

Littering bylaw enforcement statistics are in for 2010 — the first full year of increased fines for improperly discarding waste — and Bill Bruce said of the 673 total complaints received, 478 were for burning materials being discarded from vehicles.

"It's a pretty serious indicator that this is something that really irritates Calgarians," Bruce said. "Littering and discarding of your cigarettes out the window is not something the community is willing to accept, and we will continue to work on this program."

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

▶ Cigarette butts tossed from vehicles have become a particular sore point among Calgarians, according to bylaw enforcement figures.

Litter tossed from vehicles has become a particular source of frustration for Calgarian Ryan Rumsey, who has frequently used a scooter to get around town in the past.

"Sometimes it's hard to tell if it's a cigarette or a rock," the 32-year-old said. "I have definitely had a few run-ins."

A total of 11 individuals were fined as per the littering bylaw last year, including one for discarding burning material.

"We like to issue a warning first so they understand there is a problem before we prosecute," Bruce said.

JEREMY NOLAIS

Details

- The city's bylaw office issued 474 warning letters to licensed owners flagged for a first offence of littering.
- Calgarians can face a fine of $500 for littering, $750 for littering from a vehicle and $1,000 for discarding burning material from a vehicle.
- Those wishing to issue a littering complaint against a motorist are required to provide a vehicle description, date, time, location and licence plate.

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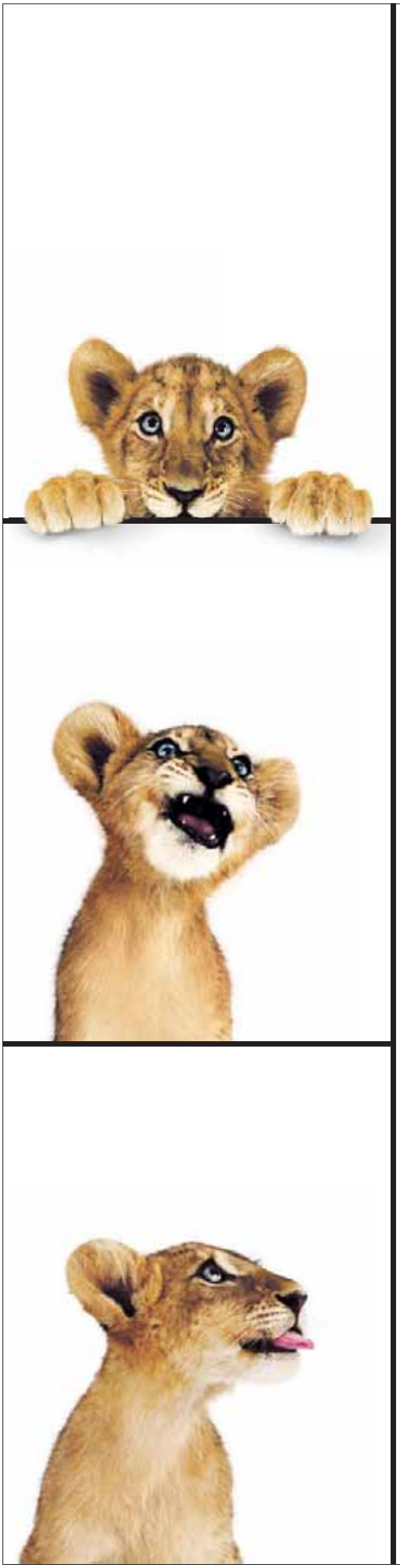

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Still work to do with homeless plan: CEO

- Ten-year plan to end homelessness began in 2008
- To date, 2,300 people have been housed in the city

As Calgary enters the fourth year of the 10-year plan to end homelessness, Tim Richter said there's still a long way to go.

Saturday will mark the third anniversary of the inception of the plan, and as the CEO and president of the Calgary Homeless Foundation, Richter said some big strides have been taken.

"We completed the first phase of the plan and our first phase was really just trying to create actual, meaningful, visible change," he said. "We've learned a lot along the way."

Richter said the next phase of the plan will focus heavily on the housing first initiative, which seeks to find a home for people at the onset.

"The hardest part of the plan is the next three years."

The first housing-first initiative of the 10-year plan is the Pathways to Housing program, which was started by The Alex.

Pathways to Housing houses homeless people who are psychiatrically ill and then surrounds them with the support of specialists.

KATIE TURNER/FOR METRO

▶ Tim Richter, president and CEO of the Calgary Homeless Foundation

One client of the program, who wished to remain unnamed, said he was staying at the Rockyview Hospital before he found out about Pathways to Housing.

"I'm not sure what would have happened to me," said the 40-year-old man. "It's very important for me to have my own place because I needed a place just to go to."

He said he is now working towards finding employment so he can eventually pay his own rent.

Sue Fortune, director of the program, said they've had six people graduate the program and become independent.

"Everybody deserves a house first and then we will surround them with the supports they need to be successful in maintaining their apartments and working towards psychiatric and addiction recovery."

At the end of three years, Richter said the plan to end homelessness is definitely achievable.

"I guess you could say that three years is the end of the beginning."

KATIE TURNER

Aim of program

The plan has four main objectives:

1. Prevent homelessness.
2. Housing people first and then treating them.
3. Creating affordable housing.
4. Getting better data on the people in the system.

GRIFFITHS THE RIGHT MAN AT RIGHT TIME?

Opinion

DJ KELLY
THE SCRUTINEER

It looks like Ed Stelmach made the decision for us.

There's no need for an election to make it happen. There will be a new premier by next year. And in the wake of Premier Stelmach's resignation the long list of potential replacements is starting to pile up.

Ted Morton has to be the frontrunner at this point. If not for the caucus budget brouhaha we've been reading about, then at least for the number of Wildrose Alliance members who could very well purchase a PC party membership to install him as the next premier. (Consider this a hedging your bets play by more conservative minded politicos.)

But behind the obvious choice of Morton the pack starts getting very confusing. The other contenders may include Dave Hancock, Doug Horner, as well as "outsiders" Jim Dinning and Jim Prentice.

But it is 2011 now. The upcoming election campaign will be unlike any the Progressive Conservatives have faced in their 40 year run. It will take a different kind of leader to pull off another win over the upstart Wildrose Alliance and Alberta Party.

It's going to be someone like Lindsay Blackett, Jonathan Denis, Thomas Lukaszuk, Alison Redford and their like who will have to lead the party forward. But sadly the majority in this group have ended up in their seat by playing the "old" game well and don't really represent a "new", less partisan, way forward.

The only man I can see in a position to be the right person at the right time is a little known MLA from Hardisty: Doug Griffiths.

To begin with, he IS Alberta. He fits in everywhere and everyone has an immense amount of respect for the man. North, south; rural, urban; conservative, liberal; the energy sector, farmers; he gets Alberta as a whole, and is the only person — regardless of party — who bridges these traditional opposites. Griffiths has tough decisions to make too. The PCs have barely embraced him, let alone recognized him as the golden boy who could lead them into the next century by transcending the type of election every other party is going to run. Sources tell me that at this point he's just as likely to not run in 2012 and be closer to his young family — where he'll no doubt be more appreciated.

The Alberta Party, who are entering into a leadership race of its own, sees Griffiths' value. Before Stelmach's announcement he was no doubt being pursued to run in its contest for all the reasons I list and more.

"I should stop short of saying Doug Griffiths will be our next premier. But he would offer the Progressive Conservatives — and Albertans in general — a great choice."

I don't want to put too fine a point on it, but the future of Alberta's government could hinge on Griffiths' decision. If he were to run, I think he would have a very good chance as a dark horse candidate to put aside the PC baggage others will carry.

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TACOS

Group applauds decision

Local members of an online group are applauding an Arizona restaurant's decision to keep lion meat out of their tacos.

Tucson-based Boca Tacos and Tequila had planned to begin serving the tacos Feb. 16.

Calgary's Alysia Hoback organized a Facebook group that drew hundreds of members arguing against the meat being served, claiming lions are a "threatened" species. "We are optimistic that our peaceful efforts did have a big part in his change of decision," Hoback said, referring to Boca's owner Bryan Mazon.

Mazon, however, said the decision came after he received threats against his family, the restaurant and its staff over the tacos.

JEREMY NOLAIS

Heated seats a great addition

With temperatures forecasted to dip slightly this weekend, Calgary Transit users at Brentwood LRT station will likely seek warmth in two new-style passenger shelters.

The new shelters, which opened in December, come complete with sealed off doors that are wheelchair-friendly, interior lighting and a new heating system that works from the ground up, making the seats inside extra toasty.

"Generally in our shelters where heat is provided it's from overhead as opposed to underneath," said transit spokesperson Ron Collins.

"I guess it kind of makes sense when you consider that hot air rises."

Collins said similar lower-ground heating systems are also installed in bus rapid transit areas in Douglas-

▶ Don Bayubay enjoys the new seats.

dale and McKenzie.

The new shelters at Brentwood are a big hit with commuters like Irina McNeil, who comes through the station five days a week.

"It's nice," she said. They are much warmer. It's good to get in from the wind."

Fellow traveller Don Bayubay agreed. "They're really nice, I like sitting in here away from the cold."

Collins said Calgary Transit will wait for feedback from customers before deciding on whether to install more of the shelters.

JEREMY NOLAIS

Lagging on 'ethical' consumption

CAROLINA NOVOTNY/FOR METRO

▶ Calgarians are among the least likely to shop "ethically" says Statistics Canada.

Alberta cities less likely to apply ethical concerns in shopping

Though making ethically responsible consumption choices is on the rise across Canada, Calgarians and Edmontonians are among the least likely to do so, according to a recent Statistics Canada study.

Twenty-eight per cent of Calgarians and 22 per cent of Edmontonians were found to buy or boycott based on ethical principles.

"It goes back to the basics of why people make these choices," said David Allwright, a business professor at Mount Royal University. He reasoned Albertans' high oil consumption and low propensity for vegetarianism may help explain why ethical choices are not as prevalent here as in other provinces.

Calgarian Sarah Jeffery said a more basic reason was behind her choices.

"It depends on the price," said Jeffery, who shops regularly at large retailers not particularly known for ethical practices. "They are open longer and are cheaper than some places."

The stats did indicate that households with higher incomes were more likely to chose or boycott products for ethical reasons — as were younger Canadians, aged 25 to 34, than older age groups.

Allwright did not find the age trend surprising and cited the education system as a likely reason.

"People who spend 12 years in the education system learning about principles like reducing, reusing and recycling — those people tend to make choices based on environmental concerns," said Allwright.

Shoppers in Ottawa and Quebec were most likely to purchase based on ethical reasons and only respondents outside of metropolitan areas were less likely than Calgarians and Edmontonians.

The study was based on information collected from 2003 to 2008.

CAROLINA NOVOTNY

Numbers

- Overall participation in ethical consumption in Canada increased by seven per cent from 2003 to 2008.
- Twenty-seven per cent of consumers buy or boycott productions for ethical reasons.
- Single and common-law people also showed a higher rate of ethical consumption.

There are ethical options out there

Calgarians who prefer ethical products do have options in the city.

Green Calgary's downtown eco-store is one of many shops in the city that stocks solely ethical products: Locally sourced and containing only natural or non-toxic ingredients.

"A lot of people walk in saying, 'I never knew this was here — it's great,'" admits Erin McLaughlin, store manager. CAROLINA NOVOTNY

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METRO WORLD LEADERS EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

‘All we want is a state of our own’: Salam Fayyad

- Palestinian National Authority plans to declare an independent state in August
- Prime Minister Salam Fayyad will ask the UN General Assembly for recognition

ELISABETH BRAW
METRO WORLD NEWS

ANNE PAQ/METRO WORLD NEWS

PALESTINIAN NATIONAL AUTHORITY, PRIME MINISTER SALAM FAYYAD

He’s the prime minister of the Palestinian National Authority. But to travel between his office in Ramallah and his Jerusalem home, Dr. Salam Fayyad must pass Israeli military checkpoints.

That soon may change. Later this year, Fayyad, an economist and former World Bank official, will ask the UN General Assembly to recognize Palestinian statehood. Fayyad has already transformed Ramallah, the Palestinians’ provisional capital, into a thriving city that features international banks and even five-star hotels. In fact, Fayyad is building an unofficial country that he hopes will show the world that Palestinians can govern themselves — and do so peacefully.

Metro met Fayyad at his office in Ramallah.

Are you trying to catapult the Palestinians into a Middle Eastern role model?

All we want is a state of our own. Our right to freedom has always been seen as something we somehow have to earn, which is unfair. But if we can show the world a stable Palestine with a well-functioning infrastructure that provides reliable services to its residents, we’ll have created the reality of a state. It will be very hard for the world to ignore it.

Will I be able to call you prime minister of Palestine in September?

You’ll be able to call someone prime minister. I’ll be the first person to congratulate him or her on becoming the first prime minister of Palestine. We’ve been waiting for this for so long … We have to keep up the positive dynamic we’ve started; we have to keep being persistent to create positive change every day to enable the state of Palestine to be born.

Are you certain it will happen?

Yes. In August 2009, we set ourselves the goal of Palestinian statehood in August 2011, and here we are. I have no Plan B or Plan C. We have only this plan and we think it’s going to work. In order for it to happen, we Palestinians have to believe in it. It’s that sense of inevitability we’re trying to create by determination and perseverance. If you don’t have a timeline, you don’t have a good plan. We’re working on the ground to get fully ready for the state of Palestine.

What will the geography of Palestine look like?

It will comprise Gaza and the West Bank, and the West Bank includes East Jerusalem. This is the territory occupied in 1967. The two areas will be connected by a safe passage, something that’s actually in the Interim Accord between Israel and the Palestinians but hasn’t yet happened. The separation of Gaza and the West Bank has contributed to the political separation that we’re going through right now.

Are there other factors?

The state of security. Militias shouldn’t be allowed to operate in Gaza. Non-violence has tremendous power. It has worked so many other times in history: In the U.S. civil rights movements and in countries like India gaining independence, and I believe it will work for us, too.

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Blood agency wants rules on gay donors relaxed

Shortening deferral period met with resistance from recipients, gay community in the past

Unclear if Health Canada will relax the rules

The federal blood donor agency says it's acting out of goodwill when it says it wants to reduce the time homosexual men must wait after having had sex before giving blood.

Canadian Blood Services believes a lifetime prohibition against accepting blood from men who have had sex with men at least once since 1977 is no longer justified and it plans to ask Health Canada to relax the rules.

The agency is funding a $500,000 grant to research a new policy — which could mean changing the donor criteria to focus on specific high-risk sexual activities rather than orientation — but a spokeswoman said Thursday that it will not wait for those findings before approaching the federal government about shortening the deferral period.

"There's got to be something we can do in the meantime," said Lorna Tessier, director of public relations for Canadian Blood Services.

The momentum for change followed an Ontario Superior Court of Justice decision last September that upheld the current policy but added there was insufficient evidence to support a lifetime ban.

"We've always agreed with that, so maybe it's time for us to say: ... 'What change can we bring about now?'" Tessier said, explaining enough information is readily available from other countries that have gone that route for the agency to ask Ottawa to shorten the deferral period while it researches bigger steps.

The agency has thought about doing this before, but shortening the deferral period was met with resistance by both patient recipient groups and the gay and bisexual community, Tessier said.

Recipients wanted to err on the side of caution and the gay community noted that asking gay men to be celibate for five or 10 years was a de facto lifetime ban.

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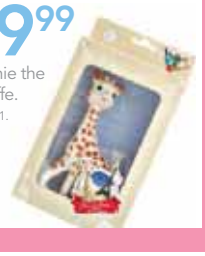

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Blast at funeral triggers fury

Baghdad car bomb kills 48 Iraqi forces pelted with sticks and stones

A car bomb exploded outside a funeral tent in a mainly Shiite area of Baghdad Thursday, killing at least 48 people.

It was the latest in a wave of attacks that have triggered fury over the government's inability to stop the bloodshed.

As ambulances raced to the scene and Iraqi helicopters buzzed overhead, young men enraged over the security lapse pelted Iraqi forces with sticks and stones.

The car that exploded about 2 p.m. Thursday had been parked with the vehicles of other mourners, several metres away from the funeral tent, so it wouldn't raise suspicion, police said.

Several other cars were set ablaze and nearby houses were damaged.

Television news footage showed broken plastic chairs overturned inside the tent. Broken tea cups and other debris covered the patterned rugs on the floor.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KHALID MOHAMMED/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Onlookers inspect a mangled wheelchair and a destroyed car at the Baghdad blast scene.

Grim scenes

- **A witness** who identified himself as Abu Ahmed al-Saiedi said mourners had been allowed to park near the funeral tent because people in the neighbourhood knew each other.
- **Al-Saiedi said,** "I blame the neighbourhood security officials for letting this car bomb enter the area without being checked. When I saw people hurling stones at the security forces, I said to myself 'They deserve that.'"
- **Another witness** — Ali Kamil, a 22-year-old student who lives in the area — said he rushed to the scene. "I discovered that a friend of mine from college was killed ... along with another friend of mine ... I saw other friends injured."

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News in brief

Berlusconi probe widens

ROME. Another minor may have been at Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi's parties, it emerged Thursday.

Already under suspicion for paying for sex with a 17-year-old Moroccan girl, new documents refer to a Brazilian who allegedly received jewels and other gifts.

Berlusconi, 74, denies the allegations.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New snub for fired waitress

WINNIPEG. A waitress who says she was fired for shaving her head has been turned away by the Manitoba Human Rights Commission.

Stephanie Lozinski, 21, said she recently cut off all her hair to show support for her uncle, who was dying of cancer.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hacking probe grabs 5 in U.K.

LONDON. Police arrested five males aged from 15 to 26 Thursday on suspicion of involvement in recent cyber attacks conducted by an Internet hacking group that has backed WikiLeaks.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

China winning green race?

DAVOS, SWITZERLAND. U.S. businesses must do more to pressure Congress to act on climate change and realize that China is "winning the green race," world leaders and climate change experts said Thursday at the World Economic Forum.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PAUL WHITE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ ANADIR members meet in Getafe, Spain, on Thursday to demand a probe of allegations that a nationwide circle of baby traffickers took thousands of children and sold them.

Seeking Spain's lost children

Baby-stealing network involved doctors, nurses, midwives, nuns, group says 30,000 believed taken

Hundreds of Spaniards searching for lost children or parents filed a petition on Thursday with Spain's attorney general to investigate allegations newborns were stolen from their mothers and sold to other families, a practice they say went on for decades.

Antonio Barroso, 41, said he found out only three years ago that the parents who raised him were not his biological parents. He said he learned he was sold at birth to another family for 200,000 pesetas. That's the equivalent of $1,638, worth more at the time.

It is well documented that in the immediate wake of Spain's 1936-39 civil war, babies and children were taken from women who supported the Republican side that was defeated by the right-wing forces of Gen. Francisco Franco.

Enrique Vila, lawyer for the petitioners' association, ANADIR, said this politically motivated punishment transformed purely into a moneymaking scheme that lasted well past Spain's return to democracy in 1978, and until the mid-1990s.

Investigating magistrate Baltasar Garzon has put the number of stolen children at 30,000. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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‘WTF?’ Palin slams State of Union speech

Obama’s economic proposals a ‘bullet train to bankruptcy’ ‘Hopey-changey thing’ not working

Sarah Palin reacted with scorn to U.S. President Barack Obama’s State of the Union address this week, attacking his economic policies and “recycled rhetoric,” which she says no longer inspires hope.

In a lengthy missive on Facebook, Palin made no mention of the call for unity that Obama made in his speech on Tuesday, and focused instead on his economic proposals, calling his ideas for investments in areas such as high-speed rail “half-baked,” and a “bullet train to bankruptcy.”

Obama, she insisted, doesn’t understand that debt is the biggest problem facing the United States, and his address can be boiled down to the message: “The era of big government is here as long as I am, so help me pay for it.”

PAT SULLIVAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Sarah Palin: in fighting form.

She noted the speech was dubbed “Winning the Future,” and suggested that the first letters of that title, “WTF,” is an apt way to describe what Obama had to say.

Meanwhile, former California governor Arnold Schwarzenegger took a potshot at Palin during his speaking tour of major Canadian cities this week.

“Can you imagine Sarah Palin being naked? No, don’t imagine that,” he said, referring to the differences between him and other high-profile politicians who have given speeches in Canada. He was speaking Wednesday in Toronto. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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New PlayStation Portable out this year

Sony said Thursday the successor to its PlayStation Portable machine will go on sale late this year, offering the quality of a home console in an on-the-go machine boasting a screen double the size of smart phones.

The NGP, short for next-generation portable, has a touch panel in the front and touch pads in the back to allow players to tap on the machine to move images, in addition to the usual buttons and switches.

It also offers a third-generation wireless connection plus the already available WiFi, allowing for more social networking and downloads. Its five-inch screen is OLED — a different technology from liquid-crystal display — for colour and image quality about four times better than that of the current PSP.

TORU YAMANAKA/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Sony will release a new PlayStation Portable late this year.

Sony said gamers will be able to play games they had been playing on the PlayStation 3 home console without feeling any drop in quality.

Kazuo Hirai, who heads Sony Corp.'s gaming section, proudly held the shiny black machine to cameras, declaring, "This is the NGP."

He did not give a price, regional release plans or other details.

"We will pursue the ultimate in entertainment," said Hirai, president and chief executive of Sony Computer Entertainment Inc., Tokyo-based Sony's gaming unit. "We want to create a revolution in your hands." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Prada. Public

▶ Hong Kong actress Cecilia Cheung arrives for a fashion show by Italian luxury fashion label Prada in Beijing on Jan. 22.

PETER PARKS/GETTY IMAGES

House of Prada in Beijing

Miuccia Prada and her fashion house are moving ahead with long-delayed plans to go public. The company is starting the process of listing on the Hong Kong stock exchange but have not given a time frame.

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 3 P.M. THURSDAY

DOLLAR
+0.21¢
(100.68¢ US)

Natural gas
1,000 cu ft
$4.319
(-18.2¢)

Gold contracts
$1,318.40
(-$14.60 US)

OIL
-$1.69 US
($89.11 US)

TSX
-55.55
(13,410.20)

GM says it doesn't need government loans

General Motors says it is withdrawing its application for $14.4 billion US in federal government loans it had sought to help modernize plants to build fuel-efficient cars.

GM says it doesn't need the loans now, because the company's cash position has improved and it can pay for the improvements. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

▶ Calgary's Dan Bennett has been fielding hundreds of inquiries about his song Lights, Camera, Action.

5 MINUTES WITH: 8-HOUR HITMAKERS

As first reported by Metro Calgary last week, Calgary artist Dan Bennett and friend Dave Wallace of Victoria co-created a song titled Lights, Camera, Action in just eight hours to expose "unoriginal" hit music on today's charts.

What's happened since the story ran?
DB: It got posted on Reddit and it became the No. 1 video on there and then it became the No. 1 video on YouTube (last) Friday.
DW: I couldn't even keep up with emails. I have 1,800 emails and it was getting picked up by ... all these other sites. It just blew up.

Did you expect this kind of exposure?
DB: No. We thought we'd maybe get another 1,000 views, but stuff goes viral and it goes crazy.
DW: No way. For it to go as far as it is now, for me to be getting messages from people in Sweden saying they love it — that it's inspiring them — it's blowing my mind.

Part of the reason you did this was to show how easy it is to make a hit song. Now, with all of this success, do you feel like you're selling out?
DB: No. It's a thought-provoking topic that people want to discuss. The thing is (Kiss bassist) Gene Simmons contacted us yesterday to make a group that would be about that (kind of music) and if we did that it would be selling out.

> **"It's a thought-provoking topic that people want to discuss."**
> DAN BENNETT

Are you serious?
DB: Yeah, someone from his record label sent us a message ... It's pretty cool when one of the main people of rock calls, but at the same time we don't want to change our style for anyone.
DW: People are trying to jump on to this success, our 15 minutes of Internet fame, but it's not going to happen. I don't see much coming from this.

So, where do you go from here?
DB: Just keep doing what we're doing, just keep trying to make innovative music.
DW: I have got lots of cool offers from people, lots of career stuff that I can look into.
METRO

Cartoon

MICHAEL DE ADDER

It's a bird, it's a plane ...

Worth mentioning and tweets

Surveillance video shows drug smugglers using an old invention as a new way to move marijuana across the border to Arizona from Mexico.

National Guard troops operating a remote surveillance system at the Naco Border Patrol Station say they observed several people preparing a catapult and launching packages over the fence late last week.

A Mexican army officer said the three-metre tall catapult was found about 20 metres from the U.S. border on a flatbed towed by a sports utility vehicle.

The officer said the catapult was capable of launching two kilograms of marijuana at a time. He said soldiers seized close to 16 kilograms of pot, the vehicle and the catapult.

The smugglers left before they could be captured.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

We asked: Do you have a clever name for the marijuana catapult? No "catapot," please.

@tuxxedomask: I understand that you don't want catapot, but I think that's brilliant.

@ari_ospeedwagon: The Herbuchet.

@imgutsy: buds away.

@van_tourguy: Slingpot?

@johnmcpheeherald: Grassfirer?

@alistairsteele: the chronic launcher?

@JessicaW_YYC: how about potshot.

@CubCarson: I have to go with the El Ka-bong.

@thedependentmag: Potapult.

Chronic launcher?

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Advertising: 403-444-0136• adinfocalgary@metronews.ca • calgary_distribution@metronews.ca
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Metro Minute at RV Expo & Sale

RVs all of shapes and sizes and with every little feature imaginable will be on display this weekend at the BMO Centre. The Calgary RV Expo & Sale runs Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Numerous displays, multimedia presentations and tourist destination seminars will be held throughout the weekend.

Travel Alberta will also be on hand to preview projects for Alberta's upcoming centennial celebrations. The event costs $14 for adults, $9 for seniors, $7 for children younger than 17 and $30 for families of four. Tickets can be purchased by calling 403-269-9822. For more information, visit rvda-alberta.org. METRO

Three days to play

IS ALBERTA BETTER OFF WITHOUT PREMIER ED STELMACH?

Jessika Havens
CALGARY
Yes. I don't think he's really done much for us when it comes to anything. He's a farmer so that's just pretty much where he should stay.

Lori-Ann Jensen
FORT MCMURRAY
No ... I'm from Fort McMurray, he's done a lot, I think, to help us out up there.

▶ Marta Gastini stars in The Rite, which opens today.

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE & MARK BRESLIN
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Devil may care

Richard Crouse and Mark Breslin debate the merits of The Rite
Anthony Hopkins is the best thing about this not-so-scary thriller

Richard Crouse: Mark, if there was an after-school special about exorcism, The Rite would be it. It's earnest, has a message and there's even a teenage pregnancy angle. I just wish it was scarier. It's freaky but could really use a few more pea soup and head spinning scenes.

Mark Breslin: A few months ago, Hollywood gave us a movie called The Last Exorcism. Aw, come on. They promised! Really, Richard, I found The Rite to be a well directed, well acted piece of hooey. If you're a non-believer, there is nothing in this movie to scare you.

RC: Even if you are a believer there's not much there to scare you. Exorcism movies like this need lots of pea soup and head spinning. Instead we a get a demon mule with red eyes. Seriously? It's freaky but not scary. Luckily Anthony Hopkins brings some – ahem – spirit to the proceedings. But is he too much? What did you think?

MB: Hopkins can never do wrong in my book. He is wonderfully entertaining, especially in the second half of the picture when he goes off the deep end. He's one of the two things I liked about the movie — the other being the actual exorcism scenes, which had a genuine intensity to them. And were there any other actors in the film that even registered for you?

RC: In a word, no. I found most of the other actors rather bland. Even Rutger "Hobo with a Shotgun" Hauer, who can usually be counted on to add a dash or two of crazy, is unusually subdued, and Ciarán Hinds, usually a majestic figure on film, fades into the background. There's no question, it's Hopkins' movie, but I sometimes felt he was acting in a different movie than everyone else.

MB: And the movie, though not poorly made, seemed beneath Hopkins' usual high standards. In fact, even by the generally low bar that's set for exorcism movies, I thought that The Rite was just...wrong.

RC: Yeah, I have very little sympathy for this devil as well. I tried to image the movie without Hopkins, for better and for worse, and when I did there wasn't anything left. He really exercises his exorcisms here and that's the only real reason to see the movie.

Plot synopsis

▶ Based on the book The Making of a Modern Exorcist, The Rite once again sees Anthony Hopkins in "personification of evil" mode, but just for a few minutes. He's Father Lucas, a veteran priest and expert in exorcism, who leads a new priest into a wild satanic showdown.

▶ **Ratings:**
Richard's: ⊕⊕
Mark's: ⊕½

2 scene

Scene in brief

Lord of the Rings director Peter Jackson has undergone surgery for a perforated ulcer in his native New Zealand.

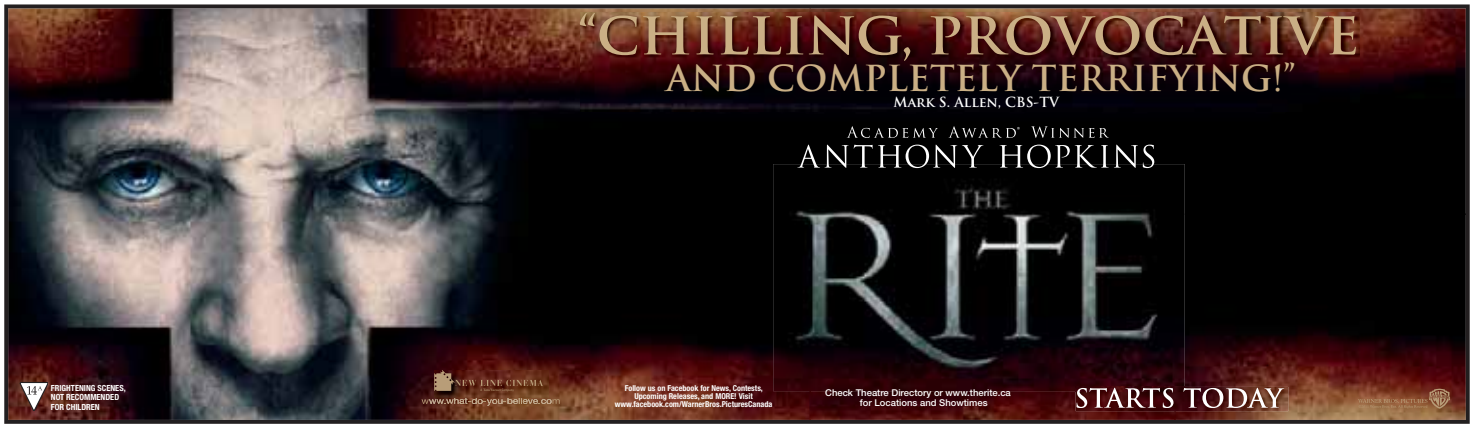
Publicist Melissa Booth says Jackson was admitted to Wellington Hospital suffering from severe stomach pains.

She said yesterday that Jackson was resting comfortably and is expected to make a full recovery.

Jackson's illness will delay the start of filming for The Hobbit.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Taiwan's Jay Chou brings music to his kung fu role in The Green Hornet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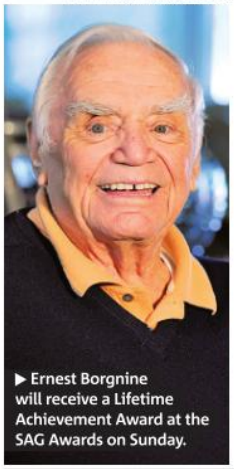
SAG ceases paper votes

Three tons of paper to be saved this year as the Screen Actor's Guild moves voting online

CHRIS PIZZELLO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ Ernest Borgnine will receive a Lifetime Achievement Award at the SAG Awards on Sunday.

Lots of Hollywood productions celebrate their eco-friendliness, but the Screen Actors Guild Awards has made one of the greenest moves yet: It has all but eliminated the paper ballot. The union's annual show, which recognizes the best performances in TV and film, urged its 125,000 members to vote online for this year's winners and only sent paper ballots to those who specifically requested them.

But it wasn't without risk. Though members were notified of the shift in the November issue of the union's magazine, some still expected the traditional paper ballot. Pundits say that online voting may alienate some of SAG's less tech-savvy members.

SAG producer Kathy Connell contends that members handle all kinds of union business online, and SAG Awards staffers are on hand to answer any awards-related questions.

The guild has offered online voting for the past five years, but previously backed up that offer with a paper ballot.

"We've been sending the printed ballot and each year, more and more people chose to vote online," Connell says.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Movie review See it twice ●●●●● | See it now ●●●● | Worth watching ●●● | Yawn ●● | Don't bother ●

Men with no company a timely tale

The Company Men
Genre: Drama
Director: John Wells
Stars: Ben Affleck, Tommy Lee Jones, Chris Cooper
●●●

The Company Men marks writer/director John Wells' transition into film following a successful career in television (ER, The West Wing).

His debut is about a group of emasculated men suddenly downsized from cushy jobs.

Wells carefully interweaves characters from all levels of the issue, from Tommy Lee Jones' high ranking executive struggling with his conscience to Ben Affleck's young buck who loses his BMW and private office to hang drywall and move back in with his parents.

Wells captures pain of unemployed limbo well and many will sadly identify with the material. His script might wrap things up a little too cleanly for such a painful story, but since the subject matter will cut close to the bone for many viewers, forcing a little optimism is forgivable. ● PHIL BROWN

The Mechanic
Genre: Action
Director: Simon West
Stars: Jason Statham, Ben Foster, Donald Sutherland
●●●

The Mechanic is hardly an original spin on the genre, but hits all the necessary beats without wasting a second of screen time. It's simply an update of an old Charles Bronson movie about an assassin forced to kill his former mentor and then train the victim's son out of loyalty.

The film requires zero brainpower, but delivers its thrills so effectively that it's hard not to be seduced by it. ● PHIL BROWN

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To see more Top 10's of 2010, visit **metronews.ca/top10**

SOURCE: Metro Life Panel Survey, January 2011, 216 respondents

metro life panel

Beer, babes and general chaos all reign supreme in these five films that made the grade as the best college comedies Look out for contender Kaboom, coming to theatres soon

1

National Lampoon's Animal House (1978)

Well, of course. Could we possibly start anywhere else? It's an absolute classic, one that defined the genre with its wonderful ensemble cast including John Belushi, Tom Hulce, Bruce McGill, Tim Matheson, Stephen Furst and Karen Allen. It made sloth and debauchery look not just amusing but wildly desirable. John Landis' film takes place in the 1960s but holds up beautifully today as a battle cry for chaos, individuality and rebellious fun. Elmer Bernstein's rousing score only amplifies the antics.

2

Revenge of the Nerds (1984)

OK, so it looks extremely dated, especially when the Tri-Lams give their synth-heavy concert during the big fraternity competition at the end. But it's goofy, raunchy, ridiculous and ultimately sweet – and much better than the many sex romps that cropped up in the early '80s. Anthony Edwards and Robert Carradine led the underdog nerd house against the idiot jocks of Alpha Beta, led by Ted McGinley. (A much slimmer John Goodman is hilarious as the school's football coach.)

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Isn't It Time You Treated Yourself?

5 classic college flicks

Since Kaboom comes from writer-director Gregg Araki, it's full of lively, funny dialogue, but it's also an ambitiously different, out-there entry in the canon of college comedies.

The film opens in select theatres this weekend and available through video on demand. Here's a look at the five movies in this category that are the big men (and women) on campus.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

3
Old School (2003)

Luke Wilson, Will Ferrell and Vince Vaughn bounce off each other beautifully as three men in their 30s who form a fraternity. All the necessary hijinks are in place – K-Y Jelly wrestling, streaking, beer-bong guzzling and even a concert from Snoop Dogg – but Old School is smarter than the average college comedy.

4
Real Genius (1985)

Val Kilmer shows off the whole spectrum of his confidence and charisma in one of his earliest film roles. He's the coolest guy on campus – which isn't all that tough at the fictional and highly geeky Pacific Tech – as the school's resident quick-thinking, fast-talking prankster and smart-aleck. Martha Coolidge's movie hasn't exactly aged well over the years but it wears its '80s esthetic proudly, has a great, infectious energy about it and, ultimately, a sweetness that binds its misfit characters.

5
Legally Blonde (2001)

Reese Witherspoon is irresistibly adorable as Elle Woods, the plucky sorority queen who transforms herself into a star law student. Perfectly coifed at all times and an expert in varying shades of pink as a fashion merchandising major with a 4.0 grade point average, Elle represents a contemporary spin on the age-old ditzy-blonde character. Director Robert Luketic's film has a brain and a heart and, like its heroine, it's a lot more intelligent than it looks.

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., JAN. 28 TO THURS., FEB. 3. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

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Due Date (14A) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:10-7:25-9:55
Fair Game (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-9:45
The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest (14A) Fri-Thu 9:15
Gulliver's Travels (PG) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:50-7:20-9:40
How Do You Know (PG) Fri-Thu 1:05-3:55
Love & Other Drugs (18A) Fri-Thu 7:15-9:50
Megamind (G) Fri-Thu 1:25-4:15-7
The Next Three Days (PG) Fri-Thu 9:30
Red (14A) Fri-Thu 1:20-3:50-6:45-9:45
The Social Network (PG) Fri-Thu 9:25
The Tourist (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:10-6:55-9:35
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Barney's Version (14A) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:15-7-10
Black Swan (14A) Fri-Thu 1:15-3:55-7:40-10:20
The Dilemma (PG) Fri-Thu 2-4:45-7:25-10:05
The Fighter (14A) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:05-6:50-9:40
The Green Hornet 3D (14A) Fri-Thu 1:25-4:10-7:30-10:15
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (PG) Fri-Wed 9
The King's Speech (PG) Fri-Tue 1-3:50-6:50-9:35 Wed 3:50-6:50-9:35 Thu 1-3:50-6:50-9:35 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
The Mechanic (18A) Fri-Thu 2:10-4:40-7:50-10:25
National Theatre: King Lear (STC) Thu 8
No Strings Attached (14A) Fri-Tue 1:55-4:35-7:15-9:55 Wed 4:35-7:15-9:55 Thu 1:55-4:35-7:15-9:55 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
The Rite (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:50-4:30-7:20-10:10
Tangled (G) Fri-Wed 1:05-3:45-6:30 Thu 1:05-3:45
Tron: Legacy 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:15-7:10
True Grit (14A) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:05-7:10-9:50

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127 Hours (14A) Fri 7:45-10:20 Sat 1:30-4:30-7:45-10:20 Sun 1:30-4:30-7:20-9:40 Mon-Thu 7:20-9:40
Barney's Version (14A) Fri 7-10 Sat 12:40-3:50-7:10 Sun 12:40-3:50-6:50-9:55 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:55
Black Swan (14A) Fri 7:30-10:10 Sat 1:20-4:20-7:30-10:10 Sun 1:20-4:20-7:10-9:45 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:45
The Green Hornet 3D (14A) Fri 6:45-9:40 Sat 1-4-6:45-9:40 Sun 1-4-7-9:50 Mon-Thu 7-9:50
The King's Speech (PG) Fri 6:30-9:30 Sat 12:50-3:40-6:30-9:30 Sun 12:50-3:40-6:30-9:35 Mon-Thu 6:30-9:35
Somewhere (STC) Fri 7:15-9:50 Sat 1:10-4:10-7:15-9:50 Sun 1:10-4:10-6:40-9:30 Mon-Thu 6:40-9:30

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Barney's Version (14A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:30
Black Swan (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 2-4:45-7:30-10:05
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:55-3:35-6:35
Country Strong (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 9:20
Dhobi Ghat (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, Sub-Titled Fri-Thu 1:35-4:30-7:40-10
The Dilemma (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20-4-7-9:45
The Fighter (14A) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:15-7:35
The Green Hornet 3D (14A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 1-3:50-7:20-10:10
The King's Speech (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:45-3:55-6:40-9:25
The Mechanic (18A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:50-4:25-7:45-10:10
No Strings Attached (14A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sat 12:50-1:35-4:05-4:35-7:05-7:35-9:45-10:15 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Sun 12:50-1:35-4:35-7:35-9:45-10:15 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon-Thu 12:50-1:35-4:05-4:35-7:05-7:35-9:45-10:15
The Rite (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Thu 1:30-4:20-7:15-10
Tangled 3D (G) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 1:30-4-6:45-9:15
Tron: Legacy 3D (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 9:10
True Grit (14A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 10:15
WWE: Royal Rumble (STC) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Sun 5
Yamla Pagla Deewana (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital, Sub-Titled Fri-Thu 1:15-4:40-8
Yogi Bear 3D (G) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:35-3:10-6:50

EMPIRE STUDIO 10

▶ Jay Chou, left, and Seth Rogen star in The Green Hornet.

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100-16061 MacLeod Trail, 403-974-0470

Black Swan (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:30-4:20-7:10-10:05
The Dilemma (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 12:30-3:20-7:10-9:50
The Fighter (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 9:40
The Green Hornet 3D (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:45-3:45-7-9:45
The King's Speech (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:20-3:30-6:30-9:30
The Mechanic (18A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 2-4:45-7:45-10:15
No Strings Attached (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Tue 1:45-4:30-7:30-10:10 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Wed 4:30-7:30-10:10 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 1:45-4:30-7:30-10:10 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Wed 1
The Rite (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1-4:10-7:15-10
Tangled 3D (G) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:15-4-6:45-9:15
Tron: Legacy 3D (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Wed 12-3:15-6:50 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 3:15-6:50
True Grit (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:10-3:10-6:40-9:20

GLOBE CINEMA
617-8 Avenue, 403-262-3308

Carlos (STC) Fri 6:30-9:30 Sat 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:30 Sun 12:30-3:30-7:30 Mon-Thu 7:30
Lovers in a Dangerous Time (STC) Fri 7:15-9:20 Sat-Sun 1:15-3:20-7:15-9:20 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:20

MOVIEDOME
1039 999 36 St. N.E., 403-248-2000

Burlesque (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:30-6:50-9:40
Dil Toh Baccha Hai Ji (STC) Fri-Thu 2-8:30
Due Date (14A) Fri-Thu 1:05-4:7:10-9:55
Gulliver's Travels (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:55-7:10
How Do You Know (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:35-6:45-9:35
Megamind (G) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:45-6:40
No One Killed Jessica (STC) Fri-Thu 9:15
The Tourist (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:40-6:55-9:45
Unstoppable (PG) Fri-Thu 1-3:50-7:05-9:50
Yamla Pagla Deewana (PG) Fri-Thu 2-7:30

SCOTIABANK CHINOOK
6455 MacLeod Trail, 403-212-8994

127 Hours (14A) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:45-7:10
Barney's Version (14A) Fri-Wed 12:30-3:45-7:10-10:20 Thu 4-7:10-10:20 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Black Swan (14A) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:05-7:10-10
Blue Valentine (18A) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:25
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 12:40
Country Strong (PG) Fri-Sat 7:25-10:25 Sun 10:25 Mon-Thu 7:25-10:25
The Dilemma (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:10-7:20-10:15
The Fighter (14A) Fri-Thu 12:50-4:05-7:05-10
The Green Hornet 3D (14A) Fri-Thu 1:20-3:40-4:20-6:50-7:20-9:50-10:20
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (PG) Fri-Wed 2-6:30-9:55 Thu 2
The King's Speech (PG) Fri-Wed 1:20-4:25-7:30-10:30 Thu 4:25-7:30-10:30 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
The Mechanic (18A) Fri-Thu 1:05-4:7:15-10:15
National Theatre: King Lear (STC) Thu 8
No Strings Attached (14A) Fri-Thu 1:25-4:25-7:30-10:30
The Rite (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:45-3:50-7:15-10:05
Tangled 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1:05-4:15-7:25-10:05
Tron: Legacy: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) Fri-Thu 1-4-7-10
True Grit (14A) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:30-7:05-10:10
WWE Royal Rumble - 2011 (STC) Sun 6
Yogi Bear (G) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:15

PLAZA THEATRE
1133 Kensington Rd. N.W., 403-283-3636

2010 World's Best Commercials (STC) Fri 6:50-9:15 Sat 11:30-2-6:50-9:15 Sun 11:30-4:20-6:50-9:15 Mon 4:25-6:50 Tue-Wed 4:25-9:30 Thu 4
Autumn Gold (STC) Wed 7
Cannibal! The Musical (STC) Thu 9:30
From Russia With Love (STC) Fri 11:30 Sun 2 Mon 9:20
The Social Network (PG) Sat 4:25
Temple Grandin (STC) Thu 6:30
Tokyo Story (STC) Tue 7

SUNRIDGE SPECTRUM
2555 32nd Street, 403-717-1200

127 Hours (14A) Fri-Sun 12:45-3:20-7:30-10:25 Mon-Tue 1:15-3:40-7:30-10:25 Wed 3:40-7:30-10:25 Thu 1:15-3:40-7:30-10:25 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Black Swan (14A) Fri-Sun 12:55-3:55-7:55-9:50 Mon-Thu 1:25-4:05-7-9:50
The Dilemma (PG) Fri-Sun 1:05-4-6:55-10 Mon-Thu 1:35-4:15-6:55-10
The Fighter (14A) Fri-Sun 12:25-3:35-6:30-9:30 Mon-Thu 12:55-3:50-6:30-9:30
The Green Hornet 3D (14A) Fri-Sun 12:05-12:50-3:10-3:50-6:50-7:35-9:55-10:30 Mon-Thu 12:35-1:20-3:30-4:10-6:50-7:35-9:55-10:30
The King's Speech (PG) Fri-Sun 12:20-3:25-7:05-10:10 Mon-Thu 12:50-3:45-7:05-10:10
Little Fockers (PG) Fri-Thu 9:40
The Mechanic (18A) Fri-Sun 1-3:30-7:20-10:05 Mon-Thu 1:30-3:50-7:20-10:05
No Strings Attached (14A) Fri-Sun 12:15-3-7:15-10:15 Mon-Tue 12:45-3:20-7:15-10:15 Wed 3:40-7:15-10:15 Thu 12:45-3:20-7:15-10:15 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
The Rite (14A) No Passes Fri-Sun 12:10-3:05-7:10-10:20 No Passes Mon-Thu 12:40-3:25-7:10-10:20
Season of the Witch (14A) Fri-Sat 3:15-6:40-9:20 Sun 3:15-9:45 Mon-Thu 3:35-6:40-9:20
Tangled (G) Fri-Sun 12:35 Mon-Thu 1:05
Tron: Legacy 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:45-6:45-9:45 Mon-Thu 1-3:55-6:45-9:45
True Grit (14A) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:40-6:35-9:25 Mon-Thu 1:10-4-6:35-9:25
WWE Royal Rumble - 2011 (STC) Sun 6
Yogi Bear 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12:2-30-4:50-7:25 Mon-Thu 12:30-3-7:25

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612 8th Ave. S.W., 403-265-0120

The Fighter (14A) Fri 4:40-8:35 Sat-Sun 12-2:20-4:40-8:35 Mon-Thu 4:40-8:35
Inside Job (PG) Fri 7:10-9:15 Sat-Sun 2:10-7:10-9:15 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:15
Rabbit Hole (PG) Fri 4:30-6:50 Sat-Sun 12:20-4:30-6:50 Mon-Thu 4:30-6:50

WESTHILLS 10
165 Stewart Green, 403-246-5291

Black Swan (14A) Fri-Sun 1:50-4:25-7:25-10:05 Mon-Thu 6-8:25
Chasing Legends (14A) Wed 7
The Company Men (STC) Fri-Sun 1-3:45-7:15-10:15 Mon-Thu 5:15-7:40
The Dilemma (PG) Fri-Sun 1:25-4:05-7:50-10:25 Mon-Tue 6:25-8:55 Wed 8:55 Thu 6:25-8:55
The Fighter (14A) Fri-Sun 1:30-4:10-7:30-10:10 Mon-Wed 6:10-8:40 Thu 5:15
The Green Hornet 3D (14A) Fri-Sun 12:35-3:20-7:9:55 Mon-Thu 5:25-8
The King's Speech (PG) Fri-Sun 1:20-4-6:50-9:50 Mon-Thu 5:55-8:30
National Theatre: King Lear (STC) Thu 8
No Strings Attached (14A) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:40-7:30-10:20 Mon-Thu 5:20-8:05
The Rite (14A) No Passes Fri-Sun 12:50-3:35-7:05-10 No Passes Mon-Thu 5:15-8:10
Tangled (G) Fri-Sun 12:55-3:10-6:55-9:20 Mon-Thu 5:30-7:45
True Grit (14A) Fri-Sun 1:40-4:20-7:40-10:20 Mon-Thu 6:15-8:50

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IN THEATRES AND real D 3D FEBRUARY 11

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From Dallas cheerleader to Fairly Legal actress

Sarah Shahi stars in new Showcase drama

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Sarah Shahi plays mediator Kate Reed in Fairly Legal.

Think there are too many doctors, lawyers and police officers on TV?

Sensing a backlash, networks are starting to fudge things a bit, introducing new shows featuring doctors who are more like Indiana Jones-esque jungle medics (ABC's Off The Map) or fired lawyers who set up practice in a shoe store (NBC's Harry's Law).

Another such show is Fairly Legal, a new U.S. cable drama premiering Feb. 2 in Canada on Showcase. The series, set in San Francisco but shot in Vancouver, stars Sarah Shahi (The L Word) as Kate Reed, an ex-lawyer who quit her late father's high-powered law firm to become a mediator.

Reed is an independent kind of gal. For one thing, she lives on a houseboat out in the harbour. She has the occasional sleepover with her ex-hubby Patrick (Michael Trucco from Battlestar Galactica) but she's not looking to rekindle an old relationship.

"The only place these two can agree is underneath the sheets," says Shahi. Her character may be a mediator, but don't ask her to work out conflict in her personal life.

Instead, Reed throws herself into her work, even though she hates her boss Lauren (Virginia Williams from The O.C.), an icy blond who just happens to be Reed's wicked stepmother. When Reed's mobile rings, it lights up emerald green and plays the wicked witch of the west theme from The Wizard of Oz.

A Texas native of Persian descent (her real name is Aahoo Jahansouz Shahi), Shahi admits she stumbled — or perhaps cart-wheeled — into acting. She tried out for the Dallas Cowboys cheerleading squad because she thought that might lead to a shot on Saturday Night Live. She made the cut, but don't ask her who is in this year's Super Bowl. She leaves the football picks these days to her actor husband, Steve Howey (Reba).

Her breakthrough role came playing a Mexican-American on The L Word, which was also shot in Vancouver. She was delighted to return to British Columbia last summer and fall to shoot the first 10-episode season of Fairly Legal. "I love Vancouver," she says. "It's definitely my home away from home."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

TV picks

▶ Host Heidi Klum

Hats inspire next Runway

PROJECT RUNWAY. On tonight's Project Runway, Season 8, the designers must use hats created by British milliner Philip Treacy to inspire their design. (Saturday, Slice)
THE CANADIAN PRESS

New Canadian series debuts

BLACKSTONE. The new Canadian series Blackstone explores power and politics on a First Nations reserve. The premiere episode kicks off with a newly elected female chief struggling to lead a broken community after years of corruption from the old regime. (Friday, Showcase)
THE CANADIAN PRESS

British import now in Canada

LUTHER. It's easy to miss the acclaimed British import Luther, even if you're aware of all the hype — this psychological crime series has a noon-hour time slot despite its prime-time leanings. (Friday, Showcase)
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Set your sights on Blindness

BLINDNESS. A strange epidemic causes people to lose their eyesight in Blindness, an adaptation of the Jose Saramago novel. (Saturday, Bravo)
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Enter a world of espionage

SPY WARS. This offers a glimpse into the world of espionage while probing the unsolved murder of Saddam Hussein's top weapons expert, Gerald Bull. (Sunday, Discovery Channel Canada)
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Stewart puts clout behind memorial

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Jon Stewart

Comedian and activist Jon Stewart was appointed to the National Sept. 11 Memorial & Museum board, which is building the Sept. 11 memorial in New York.

The host of The Daily Show on Comedy Central recently used his show to champion a federal bill that provided billions to treat people who became ill after working in the ruins of the World Trade Center.

Joe Daniels, the foundation's president, says Stewart is an important public figure and a regular New Yorker who saw the world change on Sept. 11, 2001.

The memorial — twin reflecting pools set above the fallen towers' footprints — is set to open to the public by this Sept. 11. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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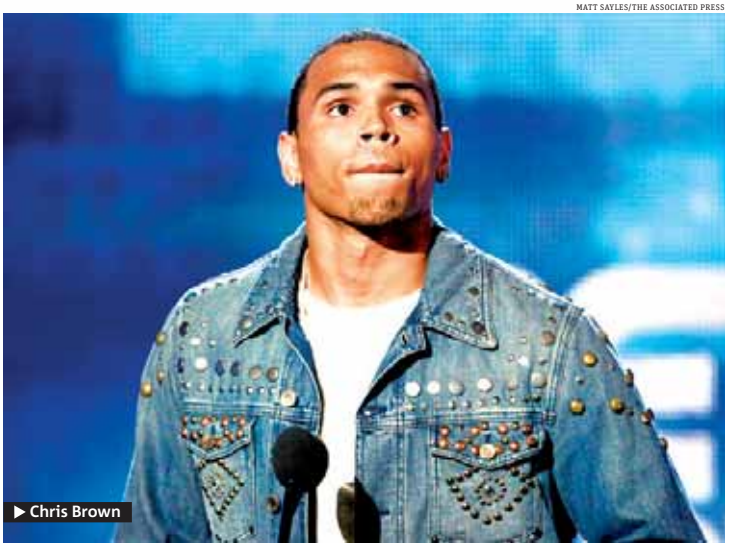
Breezy's new beginning

With 3 Grammy nods, a No. 1 song and an upcoming CD, focus has returned to music for Chris Brown

MATT SAYLES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ Chris Brown

Two years ago, the Grammy Awards appeared to mark the end of Chris Brown's career.

This year, it is serving as a new beginning.

Life for the multi-platinum sensation dramatically changed on the eve of music's biggest night in 2009, when he assaulted then-girlfriend Rihanna and both were forced to bow out of the ceremony.

In the months that followed, he saw his reputation tarnished. He had to plead guilty to a felony, and his comeback CD, Graffiti, was a commercial disappointment.

But with the success of his brush-off anthem Deuces, three nominations at this year's Grammys (including best contemporary R&B album), an upcoming CD and an Australian tour in April, the focus on Chris Brown has returned to his music, without adding the Rihanna-prefix.

"We feel good now that everybody's talking about his music, which is exactly what Chris' intention is," said Tom Carrabba, the executive vice-president and general manager of Jive Label Group, Brown's home label since he released his first album at age 16. (Brown's representative said the singer would not be interviewed for this story and, as of now, would not be attending the awards).

Carrabba says Brown has a newfound confidence, which he believes is the reason for the singer's current success.

"I think when he was a little bit younger he was still trying to find his way a little bit and fine-tune his craft. But I think over the last two years he's absolutely developed a confidence and is very secure in his decision-making process," Carrabba said.

"Some people might have forgot, but then once you see him perform, you understand the gift that he has."

TOM CARRABBA, JIVE LABEL GROUP

Brown, now 21, is serving five years of probation after pleading guilty to felony assault for the attack on Rihanna in the early morning hours before the 2009 Grammys.

The Virginia native was commended in November for completing more than one-third of the required 180 days of community service and for almost finishing his domestic violence counselling.

Over the past year, Brown has released a flurry of music.

After Graffiti, released in December 2009, failed to create a buzz for the singer like his past albums, Brown put out various mixtapes.

One of those, Fan of a Fan, a collaboration with rapper Tyga, featured Deuces, a mid-tempo tune that hit No. 1 on Billboard's R&B/Hip-Hop songs chart for nine weeks; the platinum-selling single peaked at No. 14 on the Hot 100 chart.

The music video for the song was No. 1 on BET's Top 100 videos of 2010.

Brown, who has acted in movies such as the popular Stomp the Yard, also hit No. 1 at the box office last year as part of the ensemble cast in the heist film Takers, which also starred rapper T.I. and Idris Elba.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sound Check

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WORRISOME DAYS

We're not even a month in and 2011 has not been kind to the recording industry.

Without getting all apocalyptic about it, there's enough going on to make any observer wonder if the Mayans weren't talking about the world of music.

CD sales are off to a bad, bad start. The year started with Taylor Swift holding on to the No. 1 position on the Billboard album charts by selling just 52,000 copies of Speak Now. That entire week saw just 5.4 million units sold across the entire U.S., an all-time low. And then it got worse.

The following week, Cake's Showroom of Compassion ended up at No. 1, selling just 44,000 copies. Aggregate sales were 4.9 million units. That's beyond ugly. Things aren't any better in Canada with sales trailing last year by around five per cent already. And last year was rubbish.

Sales of digital releases and vinyl are leveling off: While digital sales were up significantly around the globe in 2010 — six per cent or so — sales growth is starting to level off.

Global recorded music revenue fell about nine per cent last year.

Dearth (death?) of rock: The anemic 1-2 finish of Cake and Cage the Elephant on the Billboard charts a couple of weeks ago, was the first time we saw two rock records at the top since — well, I can't remember when. Scan any album chart in the world and you'll see precious few rock releases in the top 50.

Rock is almost completely absent from the singles charts.

Hope is on the way — Coldplay, U2, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Soundgarden and other superstar acts all have releases in the pipeline, which might get the public excited — but for the moment, the idea of rock being the prevailing style of popular music is over.

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Chelsea makes change

When Chelsea Handler and 50 Cent split up last month, it was reportedly Handler who ended things, leaving the rapper "heartbroken," according to Hollyscoop.

And after she sent him packing prior to the holidays, 50 Cent "spent Christmas sending her gifts, but she sent them back," a source says.

"She put a note on one that said, 'I can buy my own gifts.'"

Handler is now reportedly dating hotelier Andre Balazs.

"He's exactly her type," the source says.

METRO

Lohan considers restraining order

Forced to call 9-1-1 on aggressive paparazzi after chased at high-speeds

GETTY IMAGES FILE

Lindsay Lohan is so fed up with the paparazzi following her that she is now getting the police involved.

The actress called 9-1-1 after growing "scared and frustrated" with photographers who forced her into a "high-speed chase," according to Radar Online.

Lohan may be trying to build a case for a restraining order against one photographer in particular.

"One of the photographers was the same paparazzo who followed her when she was at the Betty Ford Center in Palm Springs," a source says. "He drives a Prius with tinted windows and follows her everywhere she goes, often speeding and running up to her when she stops at traffic lights. It's dangerous and stalking."

METRO

Kelsey free and clear

After several delays, Kelsey Grammer is finally being granted a divorce from Camille Grammer, just in time for his planned wedding to Kayte Walsh next month.

"There is no question that Kelsey plans to remarry immediately," Camille's attorney says. "She shouldn't have to go into her pocketbook to fight for the estate when you know there is going to be a remarriage."

METRO

Talking points

Lovato set to leave rehab

PEOPLE Demi Lovato is reportedly close to leaving rehab, according to blogger Zach Taylor.

"Demi has been making big changes in her life, and is excited about what the future holds," a source says. "She will be getting out very soon."

And the same day that word started to spread that she might be done dealing with the emotional issues that landed her in treatment, a snippet of her next single, Shut Up and Love Me, leaked online.

METRO

Celebrity tweets

Russell Brand [@rustyrockets] Thanks for my award, you beautiful British bastards. Comedy is our best defence against pain. In conjunction with medical expertise.

Jessica Alba [@jessicaalba] Jet lag you will not defeat us! Last day in Paris. Shopping shopping shopping

Simon Pegg [@simonpegg] I swear to god I just bought three hats.

Sarah Silverman [@SarahKSilverman] The color palate of Miami bums me out. Turquoise & salmon give me the Howard Johnson's sweats.

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Abu Dhabi Grand Prix Practice Results
ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates - Practice results Friday for Sunday's Abu Dhabi Grand Prix at the 5.554-kilometre Yas Marina circuit with driver, country, car, fastest lap time and laps...
Ford Fusion a solid bet for a used sporty sedan
Shopping out a used Fusion? It's a sporty and unique sedan that doesn't blend into the endless sea of Camrys
Linamar stock slides despite Q3 turnaround
TORONTO - Linamar Corp. (TSX:LNR) stock continued is recent sharp slide Friday, a day after the auto parts maker turned in an earnings report that fell slightly below estimates and announced that...
metro auto pilot
Don't leave traction to technology
Every time I feel the need to discuss grip I talk to Pierre Savoy, chief instructor of the BMW Canada Winter Driving School.
You'll need that ice scraper sooner than you think
You see some sexy things around Halloween, but none more so than unprepared vehicle.
Hybrid cars: Looking for a few more buyers
Hybrids have arrived, yes? Well, me thinks "yes" and "no." Hybrid technology has certainly arrived.
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Celebrity chef goes for wine-country red
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3 life

A romantic night in Italy without leaving home

Enjoy an easy-to-make Italian meal, and learn how to pair it with the perfect wine

Parmesan Basket with Porcini Mushroom Salad

Ingredients:
- 200 g grated parmesan
- 50 g shaved parmesan
- 200 g porcini mushrooms
- 100 g arugula
- 1 lemon
- 1 clove garlic
- 20 g parsley
- 1 tbsp extra virgin olive oil

Preparation:

1. Heat pan and pour grated parmesan to cover the pan evenly, cook for about 1 minute and pull over a cappuccino cup to make form. Let cool.
2. Cut the porcini mushrooms into small slices, add the chopped garlic, lemon juice and the chopped parsley and some salt and pepper.
3. Mix arugula with olive oil and salt.
4. Put the parmesan basket on plate, arrange arugula in it and the porcini mushrooms on top.
5. Garnish with olive oil and shaved parmesan.

NEWS CANADA

NEWS CANADA

This Parmesan Basket can be made using only eight ingredients.

Shrimp Risotto with Pomegranate

Ingredients:
- 200 g shrimp
- 240 g Carnaroli or Arborio rice
- 2 tbsp dry white wine
- 50 g parmesan cheese
- 40 g butter
- 2 lemons
- 30 g onion
- 1 pomegranate (seeds)
- 1 ltr vegetable broth
- 1 tbsp extra virgin olive oil

Preparation:

1. Warm the oil in a pan and add the chopped onions. Then, add the cleaned and peeled shrimp. Cook for about 5 minutes, then add the rice, cooking for approximately 3 minutes more.
2. Add the white wine and let it vapourize then add the lemon rinds and hot vegetable broth. While cooking the rice, stir continuously.
3. Once the rice is cooked, remove the pan from the flame and let it rest for 2 minutes.
4. Add the butter, the parmesan, the lemon juice, half of the pomegranate seeds and stir quickly. Serve on plates garnished with the rest of the pomegranate seeds.

NEWS CANADA

NEWS CANADA

Change up your risotto by adding pomegranate seeds.

The right wine

When selecting wine, study the label coding.
- DOCG: Highest quality rating with the most stringent codes and wine-production criteria.
- DOC: Basic quality code approved based on geography, grape varietal, vineyards and wine making practices.
- IGT: Approval rating assigned to non-traditional wines. The varietal, vintage and vineyard can be listed.

NEWS CANADA

Serve Chianti fit for a king – and a cupid.

Conroy ponders hanging up skates

ROBERT LABERGE /GETTY IMAGES

▶ Craig Conroy

Veteran not sure he'll keep playing after being waived

Craig Conroy felt abashed Thursday when he saw the circle of television cameras and lights around him.

The 39-year-old Calgary Flames winger thought it was too much attention for what he was about to say, which was he's leaning towards retirement, but will make a decision over the NHL's all-star weekend.

"I feel overwhelmed right now," Conroy said as the camera shutters clicked around him.

It's a measure of how much Conroy is liked, not just by Flames fans, but the media as well. Even the possibility he would announce his retirement brought reporters and cameras out in full force.

Conroy, who played his 1,000th NHL game in a Flames uniform in October, was put on waivers this week by the Flames and cleared them Wednesday.

He has the option of reporting to the AHL's Abbotsford Heat, or taking his articulate and charismatic personality into the broadcast booth where he seems destined to go. A position in the Flames organization isn't out of the question, either.

"Would it kill me to go to the minors and do it? Is my heart in that? Could I help them there?" Conroy wondered aloud. "Those are the kind of questions I ask myself.

"The overwhelming support that I've got, that's what makes me emotional. The city, the people ... and it hasn't been just the last few days, it's been all year."

17
Conroy gained the love of Flames Nation during the team's run to the Stanley Cup final of 2004, in which he had 17 points in 26 games.

Flames president Ken King and acting general manager Jay Feaster urged Conroy to take the time afforded him by the all-star break to think about what he'd like to do. Conroy intended to take his family to nearby Banff for a short holiday and make public his decision next week.

"I'll be honest. I'm leaning towards retirement," Conroy said. "That's where I'm headed."

Conroy has been a healthy scratch for 28 of Calgary's last 29 games. The last time he was in the lineup was Dec. 20 versus Minnesota.

The Potsdam, N.Y., native came to Calgary's training camp last fall with no guarantees he'd make the lineup, but injuries to several Flames forwards created room for the veteran and he signed a two-way contract for the league minimum of $500,000 US.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Federer knocked out of Australian Open

First Rafael Nadal, now Roger Federer.

The 16-time Grand Slam title-winning Federer was knocked out of the Australian Open 7-6 (3), 7-5, 6-4 Thursday by 2008 champion Novak Djokovic.

The talk before the tournament was of a blockbuster final between Nadal, going for his fourth straight Grand Slam win, and Federer, who was aiming for his fifth Australian title and perhaps the only player who could stop him.

Instead, after Nadal was eliminated by fellow Spaniard David Ferrer in an injury-induced straight-set loss Wednesday, and now with Federer heading home, it will be Djokovic in the final against either Andy Murray or Ferrer — they play their semifinal Friday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MARK DADSWELL/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Roger Federer

Sports in brief

End of an era for Titans

NFL. The Tennessee Titans have parted ways with Jeff Fisher, who just completed his 16th full season as the NFL's longest-tenured coach. The team said in a release Thursday night, "Fisher will no longer be the head coach of the team."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

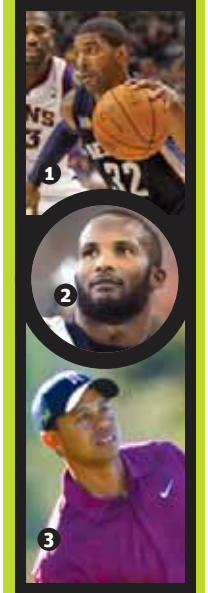
James, Wade made all-stars

NBA. LeBron James and Dwyane Wade of the Miami Heat are headed to the NBA all-star game together and Derrick Rose gave the Chicago Bulls their first starter since Michael Jordan.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4 sports

Sports in brief



1 The NBA has suspended guard O.J. Mayo 10 games without pay over a failed drug test.

2 Champ Bailey is heading to his 10th Pro Bowl, a record for cornerbacks.

3 Tiger Woods opened his season Thursday with a bogey-free round of 3-under 69 in the Farmers Insurance Open.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Scan code for more sports

A dynasty in the making?

2010
New Orleans Saints 31
Indianapolis Colts 17

2009
Pittsburgh Steelers 27
Arizona Cardinals 23

2008
New York Giants 17
New England Patriots 14

2007
Indianapolis Colts 29
Chicago Bears 17

2006
Pittsburgh Steelers 21
Seattle Seahawks 10

2005
New England Patriots 24
Philadelphia Eagles 21

A win by the Steelers next Sunday would cement their status as one of the top teams of this era

MATTHEW WUEST
@METRONEWS.CA

If the Pittsburgh Steelers win the Super Bowl, it will be a case of the rich getting richer — at least where wealth is measured by championships.

In an NFL era marked by widespread parity, a Steelers win in the Feb. 6 matchup with the Green Bay Packers would give the storied franchise a mini-dynasty of three Super Bowls in the past six years.

The Patriots (2002, 2004 and 2005) and Cowboys (1993, 1994 and 1996) are the only franchises with better championship runs over the past two decades, evidence that it has become increasingly difficult to maintain a winning roster.

In the 16 Super Bowls played since the NFL introduced its salary cap before the 1994 season, 12 different teams have won the title. In the 20 prior seasons dating back to the Steelers' first Super Bowl win in 1975, only seven teams — the Cowboys, Redskins, Giants, 49ers, Bears, Raiders and Steelers — won the big game.

Overall, no team has spoiled its fans with success more than the Steelers, who already have an NFL record with six championships. And when they make it to a Super Bowl, it's almost automatic: They win.

Only once have the Steelers made it to the big game and tasted defeat. That was in 1996, when the Dallas Cowboys took them out in Super Bowl XXX.

The only team with a better success rate (minimum two appearances) is the San Francisco 49ers, who are a perfect 5-for-5. Oh, the envy the Buffalo Bills and Minnesota Vikings must feel, both 0-for-4, respectively.

The Packers, meanwhile, are no slouches when it comes to the big game: They are 3-for-4, albeit with two of those wins coming so long ago — Super Bowls I and II in 1967 and 1968 — Brett Favre hadn't even been born yet.

Their last win came in 1997, with a 27-year-old Favre at quarterback in Super Bowl XXXI.

With a young signal-caller in Aaron Rodgers now leading the charge, the Packers hope to begin their own mini-dynasty — and in the process, shut down that of the Steelers — with a win Feb. 6.

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NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Philadelphia	50	33	12	2	3	174	130	71	16-7-0-2	17-5-2-1	8-2-0-0	W2
d-Tampa Bay	51	31	15	3	2	154	154	67	16-4-1-1	15-11-2-1	7-3-0-0	W5
d-Boston	50	28	15	2	5	152	112	63	13-9-1-2	15-6-1-3	7-3-0-0	W1
Pittsburgh	50	31	15	2	2	154	114	66	17-9-1-0	14-6-1-2	6-3-0-1	W2
Washington	51	27	15	5	4	140	129	63	16-5-2-4	11-10-3-0	4-3-2-1	L2
NY Rangers	52	29	20	2	1	148	126	61	12-11-1-1	17-9-1-0	5-5-0-0	L1
Montreal	50	27	18	4	1	130	123	59	16-6-3-1	11-12-1-0	6-2-1-1	L2
Atlanta	52	24	19	3	6	152	166	57	12-9-1-4	12-10-2-2	3-4-1-2	W1
Carolina	50	25	19	2	4	153	155	56	13-8-1-1	12-11-1-3	6-4-0-0	W2
Buffalo	49	23	21	5	0	137	144	51	11-12-1-0	12-9-4-0	7-3-0-0	W2
Florida	49	22	22	2	3	131	131	49	11-8-2-3	11-14-0-0	4-3-1-2	L1
Toronto	49	19	25	2	3	124	153	43	10-11-2-2	9-14-0-1	4-5-0-1	L3
Ottawa	50	17	25	5	3	108	160	42	9-14-2-2	8-11-3-1	1-6-1-2	L6
NY Islanders	49	15	27	3	4	119	162	37	8-12-1-3	7-15-2-1	2-7-0-1	L3
New Jersey	49	16	30	2	1	101	144	35	9-13-1-1	7-17-0-1	6-3-1-0	L1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Vancouver	50	31	10	4	5	165	121	71	17-3-1-4	14-7-3-1	4-2-1-3	W2
d-Detroit	49	30	13	4	2	166	143	66	15-6-3-1	15-7-1-1	6-3-0-1	W1
d-Dallas	50	30	15	1	4	147	137	65	16-6-1-3	14-9-0-1	7-2-0-1	W1
Nashville	50	27	17	4	2	134	119	60	11-4-3-2	16-13-1-0	6-4-0-0	L2
Anaheim	52	28	20	2	2	140	146	60	17-7-0-1	11-13-2-1	7-3-0-0	W2
Phoenix	51	25	17	6	3	149	145	59	10-9-3-2	15-8-3-1	6-4-0-0	W1
Chicago	50	26	20	2	2	157	139	56	16-13-0-0	10-7-2-2	6-3-0-1	L2
Colorado	50	25	19	6	0	161	165	56	14-11-3-0	11-8-3-0	4-5-1-0	L1
San Jose	50	25	19	4	2	139	138	56	12-10-2-1	13-9-2-1	4-5-0-1	L1
Minnesota	49	25	19	1	4	130	134	55	11-11-0-2	14-8-1-2	6-4-0-0	W1
Los Angeles	50	27	22	1	0	143	124	55	17-9-1-0	10-13-0-0	5-5-0-0	W3
Calgary	51	24	21	2	4	144	152	54	14-9-0-1	10-12-2-2	6-1-1-2	W4
Columbus	49	23	21	3	2	130	152	51	12-11-0-1	11-10-3-1	3-5-1-1	L1
St. Louis	49	22	20	3	4	130	146	51	15-8-1-2	7-12-2-2	2-7-1-0	L4
Edmonton	49	15	26	1	7	122	168	38	7-13-1-3	8-13-1-3	2-7-0-1	L1

d — division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL (overtime loss) or SL (shootout loss) column.

Last night's results
No Games Scheduled.
Wednesday's results
Calgary 4 St. Louis 1
Dallas 3 Edmonton 1
Vancouver 2 Nashville 1
Atlanta 1 Washington 0
Boston 2 Florida 1
Carolina 4 N.Y. Islanders 2
Detroit 3 New Jersey 1
Los Angeles 3 San Jose 2 (SO)
Phoenix 5 Colorado 2

ALL-STAR WEEKEND

At Raleigh, N.C.
Tonight's game
All times Eastern
All-star player draft, 8 p.m.
Tomorrow's game
Skills Competition, 7 p.m.
Sunday's game
All-Star game, 4 p.m.

LATE WEDNESDAY

STARS 3, OILERS 1

First Period
1. Dallas, Burish 7 (Ribeiro, Daley) 10:38
Penalties — Langenbrunner Dal (interference) 2:16, Vandermeer Edm, Barch Dal (fighting) 13:29, Fraser Edm, Niskanen Dal (fighting) 13:43.
Second Period
2. Dallas, Morrow 20 (Langenbrunner, Robidas) 2:32 (pp)
3. Dallas, Morrow 21 (Langenbrunner, Ribeiro) 8:22
4. Edmonton, Penner 16 (Horcoff, Hall) 17:44 (pp)
Penalties — Penner Edm (hooking) 1:18, Petry Edm (holding), Fistric Dal (unsportsmanlike conduct) 9:07, Stortini Edm (fighting), Barch Dal (roughing, fighting, misconduct) 12:59, Gagner Edm, Sutherby Dal (cross-checking) 14:42, Peckham Edm (interference, fighting), Neal Dal (unsportsmanlike conduct, instigator, fighting) 16:37, Khabibulin Edm (slashing; served by Hall) 19:02.
Third Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — Smid Edm (elbowing), Jacques Edm (roughing), Gagner Edm (misconduct) 9:19, Khabibulin Edm (roughing; served by Cogliano), Morrow Dal (slashing) 9:57.
Shots

Edmonton	11	11	13—35
Dallas	5	6	10—21

Goal — Edmonton: Khabibulin (L,8-22-2); Dallas: Lehtonen (W,22-11-5). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Edmonton: 1-3; Dallas: 1-4. **Referees** — Mike Leggo, Kyle Rehman. **Linesmen** — Ryan Galloway, Jay Sharrers.
Att. — 13,875 (18,532) at Dallas.

CANUCKS 2, PREDATORS 1

First Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — Weber Nash (cross-checking) 4:16, Bieksa Vcr (tripping) 8:13, Burrows Vcr (hooking) 10:49, Ward Nash (goaltender-interference) 11:34, H.Sedin Vcr (tripping) 16:03.
Second Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — Ehrhoff Vcr (high-sticking) 3:02, Suter Nash (holding) 11:36, Volpatti Vcr (high-sticking) 14:43.
Third Period
1. Nashville, Weber 9 (Erat, Kostitsyn) 0:37
2. Vancouver, Burrows 11 (Hamhuis) 10:39
3. Vancouver, Sweat 1 (D.Sedin) 12:31
Penalty — Rinne Nash (hooking; served by Kostitsyn) 3:03.
Shots

Nashville	12	8	15—35
Vancouver	4	14	7—27

Goal — Nashville: Rinne (L,17-13-4); Vancouver: Luongo (W,23-8-7). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Nashville: 0-5; Vancouver: 0-4.
Referees — Steve Kozaru, Don Van Massenhoven. **Linesmen** — Mike Cvik, Vaughan Rody.
Att. — 18,860 (18,810) at Vancouver.

FLAMES 4, BLUES 1

First Period
1. Calgary, Moss 11, 5:34 (pp)
Penalties — Polak StL (holding) 4:19, Brewer StL (hooking) 17:48, Polak StL (delay of game) 19:36.
Second Period
2. Calgary, Moss 12 (Babchuk, Jokinen) 1:29 (pp)
3. Calgary, Pardy 1 (Jokinen, Moss) 18:38
Penalty — Bourque Cal (interference) 3:44.
Third Period
4. St. Louis, McRae 1 (McClement, Boyes) 7:49
5. Calgary, Iginla 22 (Giordano) 19:16 (en)
Penalty — Babchuk Cal (high-sticking) 19:28.
Shots

St. Louis	7	12	10—29
Calgary	10	4	6—20

Goal — St. Louis: Conklin (L,5-4-2); Calgary: Kiprusoff (W,20-18-2). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — St. Louis: 0-2; Calgary: 2-3.
Referees — Chris Lee, Brad Watson. **Linesmen** — Brad Lazarowich, Mark Wheler.
Att. — 19,289 (19,289) at Calgary.

LEAGUE LEADERS

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	PT
Stamkos, TB	38	29	67
Crosby, Pgh	32	34	66
D.Sedin, Vcr	27	37	64
H.Sedin, Vcr	11	50	61
St. Louis, TB	20	40	60
B.Richards, Dal	20	37	57
Zetterberg, Det	16	37	53
E.Staal, Car	25	27	52
Perry, Ana	25	26	51
Ovechkin, Wash	19	32	51
Eriksson, Dal	17	32	49
Kopitar, LA	16	33	49
Kesler, Vcr	27	20	47
Iginla, Cal	22	25	47
Giroux, Pha	19	28	47
M.Richards, Pha	17	30	47
Sharp, Chi	26	20	46
Backstrom, Wash	12	34	46
Ribeiro, Dal	10	36	46
Briere, Pha	26	19	45
Duchene, Col	20	25	45
Selanne, Ana	15	30	45
J.Carter, Pha	23	21	44
Havlat, Minn	14	30	44
J.Thornton, SJ	13	31	44
Yandle, Phx	8	36	44
Nash, Clb	23	20	43
Heatley, SJ	18	25	43
P.Stastny, Col	17	26	43
M.Koivu, Minn	14	29	43
Visnovsky, Ana	8	35	43
Hejduk, Col	15	27	42
Lidstrom, Det	11	31	42
Vanek, Buf	18	23	41
Byfuglien, Atl	16	25	41
Enstrom, Atl	8	33	41
Letang, Pgh	7	34	41
Skinner, Car	18	22	40
Toews, Chi	17	23	40
Bergeron, Bos	16	24	40
Plekanec, Mtl	16	24	40
MacArthur, Tor	15	25	40
T.Ruutu, Car	12	28	40
Ryan, Ana	22	17	39
J.Williams, LA	18	21	39
Ladd, Atl	16	23	39
Datsyuk, Det	12	27	39
Dubinsky, NYR	17	21	38
Clowe, SJ	13	25	38
J.Jokinen, Car	12	26	38

GOAL SCORING

NAME TEAM	GP	G
Steven Stamkos Tampa Bay	51	38
Sidney Crosby Pittsburgh	41	32
Ryan Kesler Vancouver	50	27
Daniel Sedin Vancouver	50	27
Danny Briere Philadelphia	47	26
Patrick Sharp Chicago	49	26
Corey Perry Anaheim	52	25
Eric Staal Carolina	50	25
Jeff Carter Philadelphia	50	23
Rick Nash Columbus	48	23
Logan Couture San Jose	49	22
Jarome Iginla Calgary	51	22
Bobby Ryan Anaheim	52	22
Johan Franzen Detroit	48	21
Brenden Morrow Dallas	50	21

ASSISTS

NAME TEAM	GP	A
Henrik Sedin Vancouver	50	50
Martin St. Louis Tampa Bay	51	40
Brad Richards Dallas	50	37
Daniel Sedin Vancouver	50	37
Henrik Zetterberg Detroit	49	37
Mike Ribeiro Dallas	50	36
Keith Yandle Phoenix	51	36
Lubomir Visnovsky Anaheim	51	35
Nicklas Backstrom Washington	51	34
Sidney Crosby Pittsburgh	41	34
Kris Letang Pittsburgh	50	34
Tobias Enstrom Atlanta	50	33
Anze Kopitar Los Angeles	50	33
Loui Eriksson Dallas	49	32
Alex Ovechkin Washington	51	32

POWER-PLAY POINTS

NAME TEAM	GP	PPP
Steven Stamkos Tampa Bay	51	27
Nicklas Lidstrom Detroit	49	26
Daniel Sedin Vancouver	50	26
Martin St. Louis Tampa Bay	51	25
Joe Thornton San Jose	48	25
Brad Richards Dallas	50	23
Tobias Enstrom Atlanta	50	22
Dany Heatley San Jose	50	22
Henrik Sedin Vancouver	50	22
Teemu Selanne Anaheim	43	22
Keith Yandle Phoenix	51	22
Jack Johnson Los Angeles	50	21
Patrick Sharp Chicago	49	21
James Wisniewski NYI-MON	45	21
Dan Boyle San Jose	50	20

POWER-PLAY GOALS

NAME TEAM	GP	PP
Steven Stamkos Tampa Bay	51	15
Daniel Sedin Vancouver	50	11
Patrick Sharp Chicago	49	11
Sidney Crosby Pittsburgh	41	10
Ryan Kesler Vancouver	50	10
Teemu Selanne Anaheim	43	10
Ryan Malone Tampa Bay	49	9
Corey Perry Anaheim	52	9
Thomas Vanek Buffalo	49	9
Dany Heatley San Jose	50	8
Patrick Marleau San Jose	50	8
Ryan Smyth Los Angeles	50	8
John Tavares NY Islanders	46	8
Joe Thornton San Jose	48	8
Daniel Alfredsson Ottawa	50	7

POWER-PLAY ASSISTS

NAME TEAM	GP	PPA
Martin St. Louis Tampa Bay	51	23
Nicklas Lidstrom Detroit	49	20
Keith Yandle Phoenix	51	20
Tomas Kaberle Toronto	49	19
Lubomir Visnovsky Anaheim	51	19
Jack Johnson Los Angeles	50	18
Brad Richards Dallas	50	18
Henrik Sedin Vancouver	50	18
Tobias Enstrom Atlanta	50	17
Joe Thornton San Jose	48	17
James Wisniewski NYI-MON	45	17
Dan Boyle San Jose	50	16
Ray Whitney Phoenix	49	16
Kris Letang Pittsburgh	50	15
Daniel Sedin Vancouver	50	15

SHORT-HANDED POINTS

NAME TEAM	GP	SHP
Matt Cooke Pittsburgh	49	5
Claude Giroux Philadelphia	50	5
Brad Marchand Boston	47	5
Brandon Prust NY Rangers	52	5
Mike Richards Philadelphia	50	5
Marc Staal NY Rangers	52	4
Craig Adams Pittsburgh	48	3
Jamie Benn Dallas	46	3
Patrice Bergeron Boston	50	3
Brian Boyle NY Rangers	52	3
Gregory Campbell Boston	48	3
Matt Cullen Minnesota	46	3
Brandon Dubinsky NY Rangers	47	3
Pascal Dupuis Pittsburgh	49	3
Barret Jackman St Louis	37	3

GAME-WINNING GOALS

NAME TEAM	GP	GW
Dustin Byfuglien Atlanta	52	6
Logan Couture San Jose	49	6
Ryan Kesler Vancouver	50	6
Alex Ovechkin Washington	51	6
Mark Recchi Boston	50golf	6
Patrick Sharp Chicago	49	6
Eric Staal Carolina	50	6
Steven Stamkos Tampa Bay	51	6
Danny Briere Philadelphia	47	5
Jeff Carter Philadelphia	50	5
Danny Cleary Detroit	35	5
Valtteri Filppula Detroit	46	5
Anze Kopitar Los Angeles	50	5
Milan Lucic Boston	47	5
Rick Nash Columbus	48	5
Corey Perry Anaheim	52	5
Taylor Pyatt Phoenix	47	5
Daniel Sedin Vancouver	50	5
Martin St. Louis Tampa Bay	51	5
Alex Steen St Louis	49	5

TENNIS

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

At Melbourne, Australia
Thursday's results
WOMEN
Singles — Semifinals
Kim Clijsters (3), Belgium, def. Vera Zvonareva (2), Russia, 6-3, 6-3.
Li Na (9), China, def. Caroline Wozniacki (1), Denmark, 3-6, 7-5, 6-3.
MEN
Singles — Semifinals
Novak Djokovic (3), Serbia, def. Roger Federer (2), Switzerland, 7-6 (3), 7-5, 6-4.
Doubles — Semifinals
Bob and Mike Bryan (1), U.S., def. Eric Butorac, U.S., and Jean-Julien Rojer, Netherlands Antilles, 6-3, 6-2.
Mahesh Bhupathi and Leander Paes (3), India, def. Max Mirnyi, Belarus, and **Daniel Nestor (2), Toronto,** 7-6 (5), 4-6, 6-3.

GOLF

PGA FARMERS INSURANCE OPEN

At San Diego
Par 72
First Round

Sunghoon Kang	33-31—64
Alex Prugh	34-31—65
Rickie Fowler	34-31—65
Chris Kirk	32-34—66
John Daly	33-34—67
Brandt Jobe	33-34—67
Bill Haas	33-34—67
Keegan Bradley	35-32—67
Fabian Gomez	34-33—67
Ryuji Imada	33-34—67
Fredrik Jacobson	33-34—67
Y.E. Yang	34-33—67
Phil Mickelson	35-32—67
Marc Leishman	34-33—67
Anthony Kim	34-34—68
Matt Jones	34-34—68
Ben Martin	34-34—68
Paul Stankowski	35-33—68
Rory Sabbatini	33-35—68
David Mathis	33-35—68
Kyle Stanley	33-35—68
Scott McCarron	34-35—69
Kevin Sutherland	36-33—69
Jhonattan Vegas	32-37—69
Hunter Mahan	37-32—69
Tiger Woods	34-35—69
Brian Davis	34-35—69
Zack Miller	34-35—69
Michael Thompson	33-36—69
Jamie Lovemark	33-36—69
Kevin Streelman	35-34—69
Dustin Johnson	36-33—69
Camilo Villegas	33-36—69
Pat Perez	35-34—69
Jason Gore	34-36—70
Brandt Snedeker	34-36—70
Carl Pettersson	34-36—70
Nick Watney	35-35—70
Ben Crane	35-35—70
Andres Romero	36-34—70
Ben Curtis	35-35—70
David Duval	33-37—70
Tommy Gainey	34-36—70
Brendan Steele	34-36—70
Bobby Gates	33-37—70
Hunter Haas	35-35—70
Billy Mayfair	34-36—70
Stewart Cink	33-37—70
Lucas Glover	33-37—70
Chris Couch	34-36—70
a-Anthony Paolucci	33-37—70
Also	
Chris Baryla	**38-33—71**
Mike Weir	**36-36—72**
David Hearn	**38-36-74**
Matt McQuillan	**34-40—74**
Stephen Ames	**37-38—75**

EUROPEAN PGA VOLVO CHAMPIONS

At Riffa, Bahrain
Par 72
First Round

Johan Edfors	31-33—64
Pablo Larrazabal	33-33—66
Peter Hanson	33-33—66
Francesco Molinari	33-33—66
Graeme Storm	34-32—66

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Boston	34	10	.773	—
d-Chicago	31	14	.689	3½
d-Miami	31	14	.689	3½
Orlando	30	16	.652	5
Atlanta	29	17	.630	6
New York	24	21	.533	10½
Philadelphia	20	25	.444	14½
Charlotte	19	25	.432	15
Milwaukee	17	26	.395	16½
Indiana	16	26	.381	17
Detroit	17	29	.370	18
New Jersey	14	32	.304	21
Washington	13	31	.295	21
Toronto	13	33	.283	22
Cleveland	8	37	.178	26½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-San Antonio	39	7	.848	—
d-L.A. Lakers	33	13	.717	6
Dallas	30	15	.667	8½
New Orleans	31	16	.660	8½
d-Oklahoma City	29	16	.644	9½
Denver	27	18	.600	11½
Utah	27	19	.587	12
Portland	25	21	.543	14
Memphis	22	24	.478	17
Houston	22	26	.458	18
Phoenix	20	24	.455	18
Golden State	19	26	.422	19½
L.A. Clippers	17	28	.378	21½
Sacramento	10	33	.233	27½
Minnesota	10	35	.222	28½

d — division leader
Last night's results
New York 93 Miami 88
Dallas 111 Houston 106
Boston at Portland
Wednesday's results
Orlando 111 Indiana 96
New Jersey 93 Memphis 88
Philadelphia 107 Toronto 94
Denver 109 Detroit 100
Milwaukee 98 Atlanta 90
Oklahoma City 118 Minnesota 117 (OT)
Houston 96 L.A. Clippers 83
Charlotte 114 Phoenix 107
San Antonio 112 Utah 105
New Orleans 112 Golden State 103
Tonight's games
All times Eastern
New Jersey at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Memphis at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Milwaukee at Toronto, 7 p.m.
New York at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Denver at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Detroit at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Orlando at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Washington at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
Minnesota at Utah, 9 p.m.
Charlotte at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.
Sacramento at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.
Boston at Phoenix, 10:30 p.m.

NFL

PRO BOWL

Sunday's game
All times Eastern
At Honolulu
AFC vs. NFC, 7 p.m.

SUPER BOWL XLV

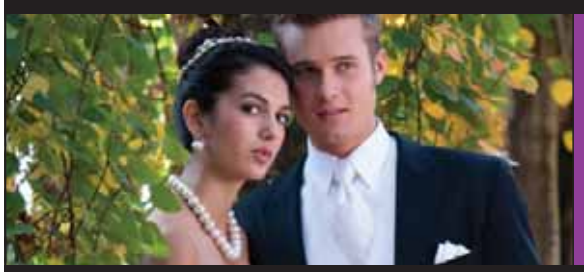
Sunday, Feb. 6
At Arlington, Texas
Pittsburgh (AFC) vs. Green Bay (NFC), 6:30 p.m.

LACROSSE

NLL

WEEK FOUR
Tonight's games
All times Eastern
Philadelphia at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Calgary at Edmonton, 9 p.m.
Tomorrow's games
Buffalo at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Colorado at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Boston at Rochester, 7:35 p.m.
Washington at Minnesota, 8:30 p.m.
Edmonton at Calgary, 9:30 p.m.

Celebrate family & friends



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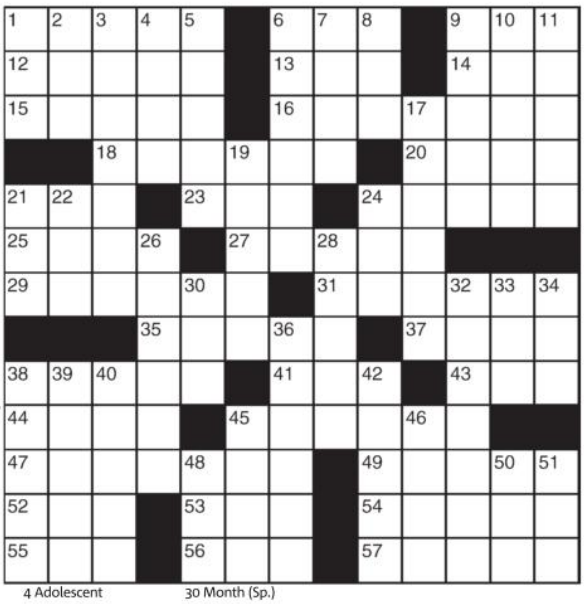
Crossword



Across

1 Dublin-born dramatist
6 Sony rival
9 Treasure-hunt aid
12 Bewildered
13 Self expression?
14 Grackle's cousin
15 Tabloid
16 Painkiller
18 Marx collaborator
20 Fourth dimension
21 Regis and Kelly's network
23 Second ph.
24 Winning
25 "Phooey!"
27 Hooded slitherer
29 Take for granted
31 Hollywood statuary
35 Downstairs
37 Unrepaired
38 Trousers
41 A mere handful
43 Cauldron
44 Authentic
45 From the beginning
47 Malign
49 Quickly
52 Female deer
53 Brooch
54 Worth
55 Chances, for short
56 Al Jaffee's magazine
57 Cosmetician Lauder

Down

1 Shrill bark
2 Greek vowel
3 Phases
4 Adolescent
5 Beetle Bailey's boss
6 Theater district
7 Mama —Elliot
8 Pump up the volume
9 Donny's sister
10 Inner self, to Jung
11 Languished
17 Home of Odysseus
19 Top
21 Literary collection
22 Clear the tables
24 MGM motto start
26 Barely perceptible
28 Garden shelter
30 Month (Sp.)
32 Paving material
33 Carnival city
34 Bygone flier
36 Arouse resentment
38 Madrid museum
39 Man of morals?
40 Scruffs
42 Make on a loom
45 Largest of the seven
46 Hot tubs
48 Spinning stat
50 Prompt
51 Shoe width

▶ Yesterday's answer

Sudoku

6				5		3	4	7
					9			2
		7		6	3	9		
2				3	7	1		
		1	9	8				4
		8	7	9		2		
5			6					
7	2	4		1				9

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

9	2	3	1	5	8	4	7	6
8	4	6	9	7	3	2	5	1
1	7	5	4	6	2	9	8	3
7	6	4	2	9	1	5	3	8
3	5	9	6	8	7	1	2	4
2	8	1	3	4	5	6	9	7
4	1	2	8	3	9	7	6	5
5	9	8	7	1	6	3	4	2
6	3	7	5	2	4	8	1	9

Send a KISS

Show some love! Send a note to somebody special at kiss@metronews.ca

The last 2 years of my life has been extra special because of you Sapna.Thank you for making my birthday unforgettable...i am truly grateful for everthing you've done for me.You are kind and compassionate.My friend. Thank you! **Q.D.B**

Nesha Charles, I love you with all my heart.You are the greatest most amazing friend ever! I am incredibly blessed to have you in my life.Stay as sweet, kind, beautiful and loving as you are.Love you! **JS**

Hey jt, I just wanted to let you know that your way to cute for words,and no matter what I'm always there for you **LOVE TOOPY**

Dear Jel,
You are the most amazing girl ive ever met, I cant explain how happy I am with you. I hope we last a lifetime. **LOVE, LOBSTER**

A look at the weather

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Min -4° Max -3°	Min -9° Max -8°	Min -21° Max -9°

Andrew Schultz, Meteorologist
"I get to spread the word on how your day, evening or weekend will shape up with our ever-changing weather here in Alberta". **WEEKDAYS 6AM**

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 Anyone who tries to pull the wool over your eyes will be lucky to still be standing by the end of the day. Every now and again you have to remind people not to take liberties.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 If you allow others to distract you today, you won't get much done and that would be a shame as you have so much going for you at the moment. You don't have to be sidetracked by petty issues.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 Don't worry about the rights and wrongs of what you are planning to do because you are under a cosmic protection that means you can get away with almost anything.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 Why are you holding back when you don't have to? Could it be your subconscious is warning you of an obstacle of which your conscious mind is not yet aware? Proceed with caution.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 When are you going to step up and take control of a situation that only you can resolve? The longer you let others call the shots, the longer it will drag on. Leo is the sign of leadership, lead.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 There is good and bad in everyone. If you keep that thought in mind today, you should be able to stay on friendly terms with just about everyone. Try not to be judgmental. It never leads to anything positive.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 Think twice before you reject an offer simply because you will have to pay for it. Sometimes, you have to give some to get some, and this is certainly the kind of deal you will benefit from in the long-term.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 The more others try to tell you that what you are planning is never going to work, the more determined you will be to prove them wrong – and you will.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 You have fallen into a rut and need to find a way to liven things up a bit. In true Sagittarian fashion it won't be a small way – you'll break all the rules. A more enjoyable groove awaits.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 You can't always be on the winning side and what happens today will remind you that success tastes much better when you suffer a few failures. It's all good experience.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 Decide on a course of action and stick to it. The more you change your mind about what it is you want to do, the less likely it is you will ever get started. Do something.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 Some people can be carelessly hurtful with the things they say, but you don't have to respond in kind. You're a good enough actor to pretend you are not in the least bit upset.

SALLY BROMPTON

Caption contest

JOHN LEYBA/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WIN!

You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image to the right and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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CHEVROLET

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CRUZE
The All-New 2011 Chevrolet Cruze.

1. Green flag missing from flags 2. Passenger side reflector removed from the 2011 Chevrolet Cruze 3. Little tree removed above man 4. Branch removed from palm tree 5. Word "THE" removed from blue part of left building 6. Wooden post added on right of walkway 7. White post in fence turned to blue 8. Second step removed 9. Stack of red chairs added on porch 10. Shrub added near wooden post on right of walkway

HURRY! OFFERS END SOON

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